THE ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS

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- INFORMATION DIGEST

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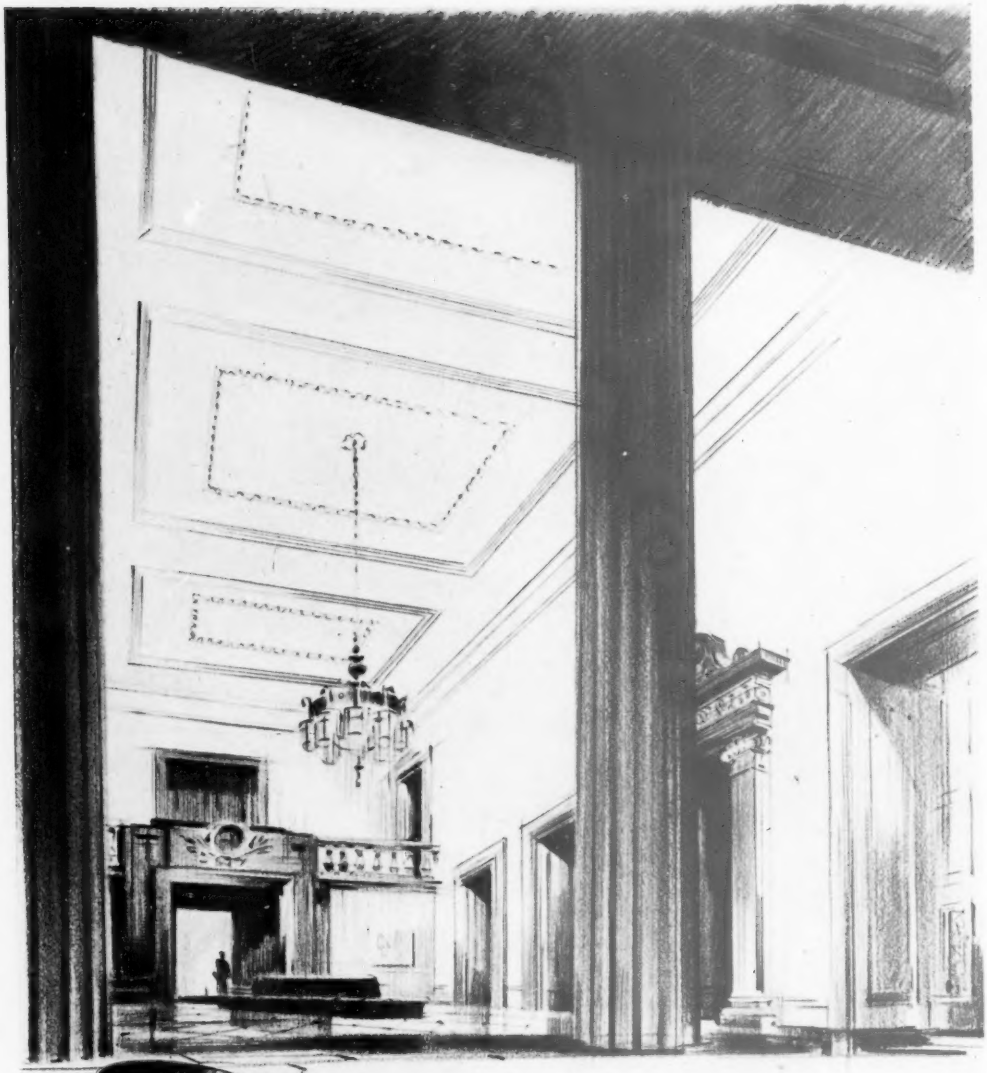

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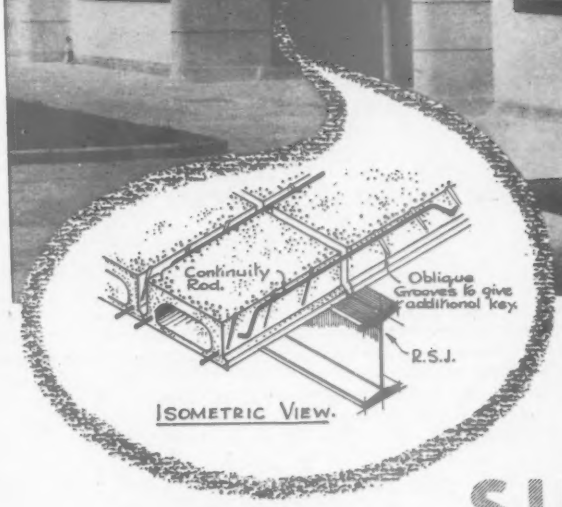

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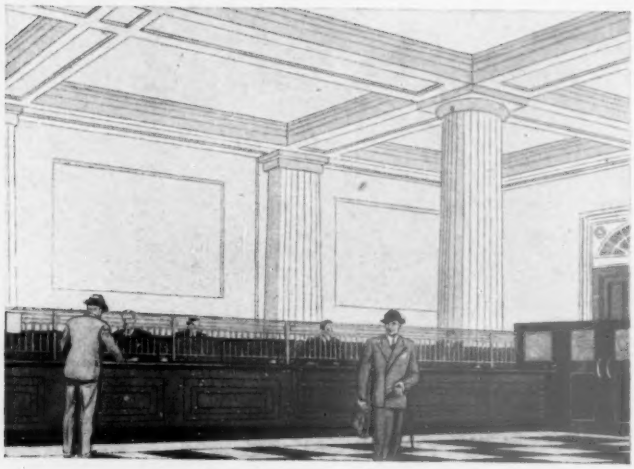

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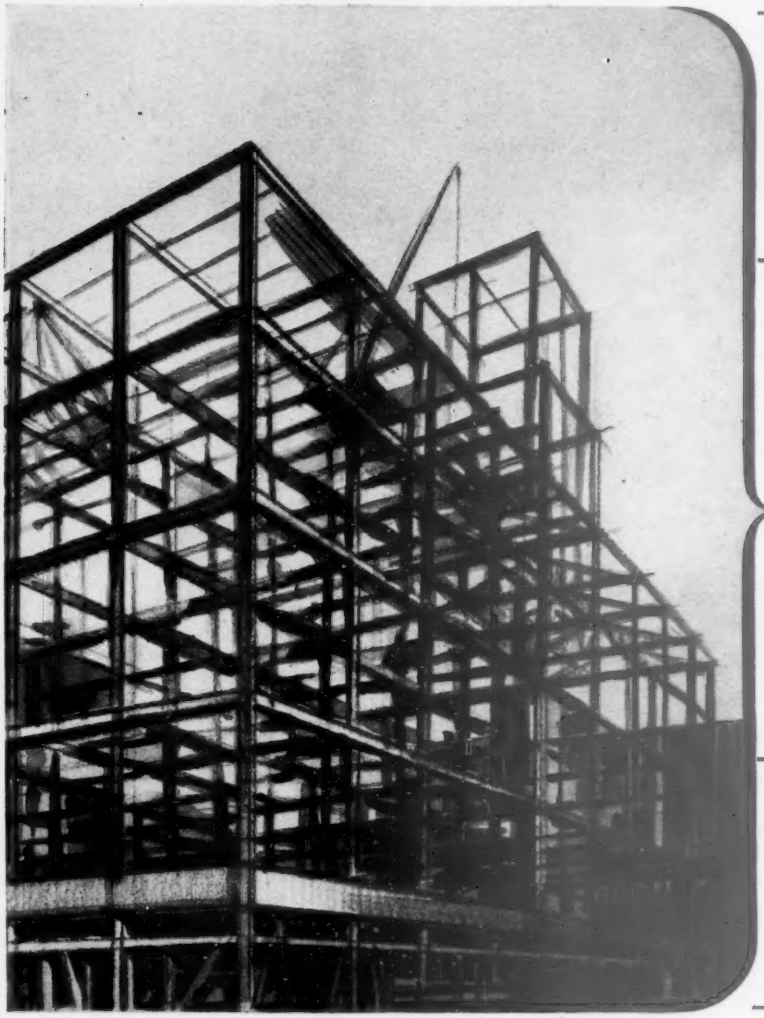

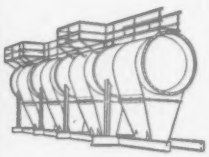

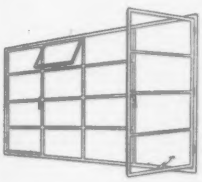

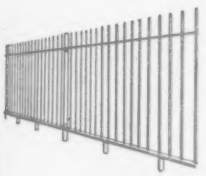

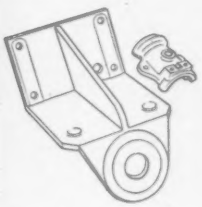

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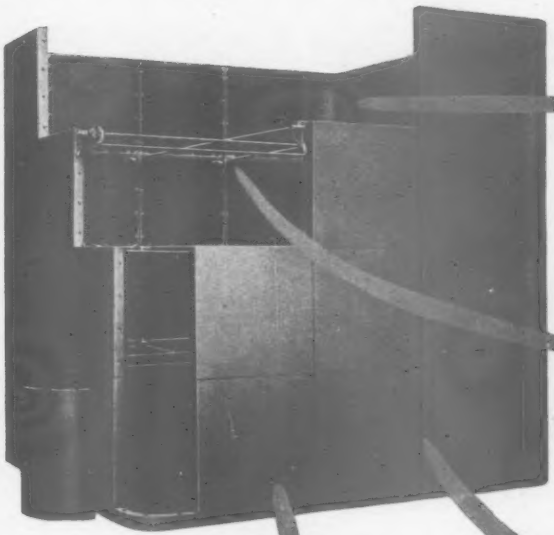

TANKS ARE ERECTED WITH EITHER INSIDE OR OUTSIDE FLANGES

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JOINTS ARE SEALED WITH STANDARD JOINTING COMPOUND

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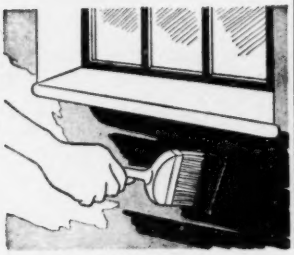

to seal concrete roofs . . .

to waterproof concrete sub-floors

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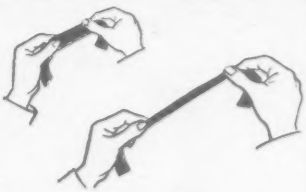
forms an elastic, adhesive, waterproof coat containing rubber



Synthaprufe is elastic (as shown by test strip) and therefore an ideal waterproof jointing

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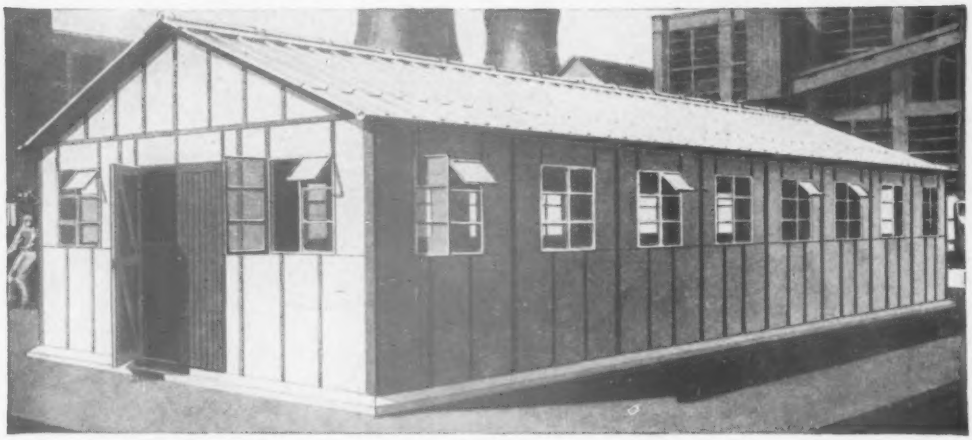

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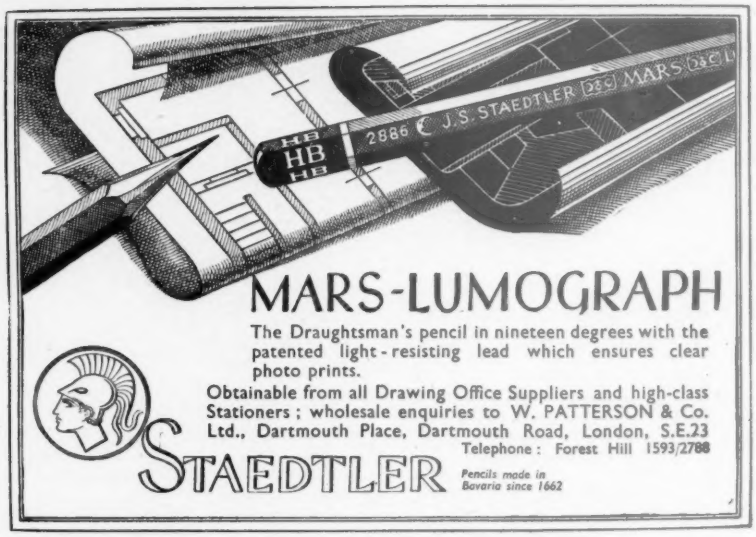

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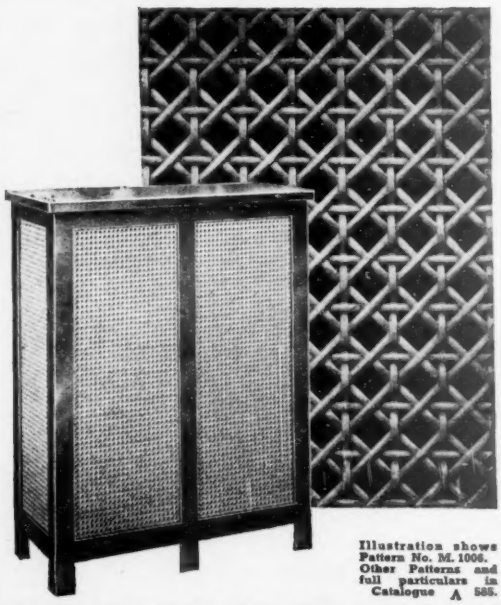

Illustration shows Pattern No. M. 1006. Other Patterns and full particulars in Catalogue A 585.

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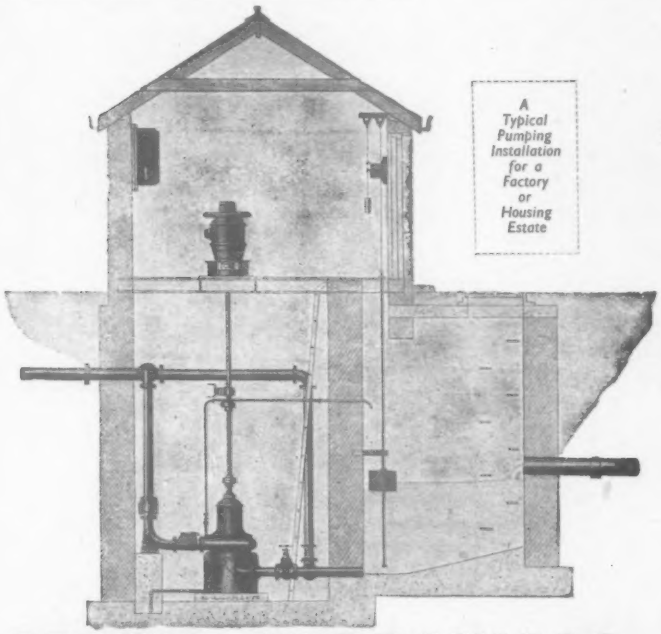

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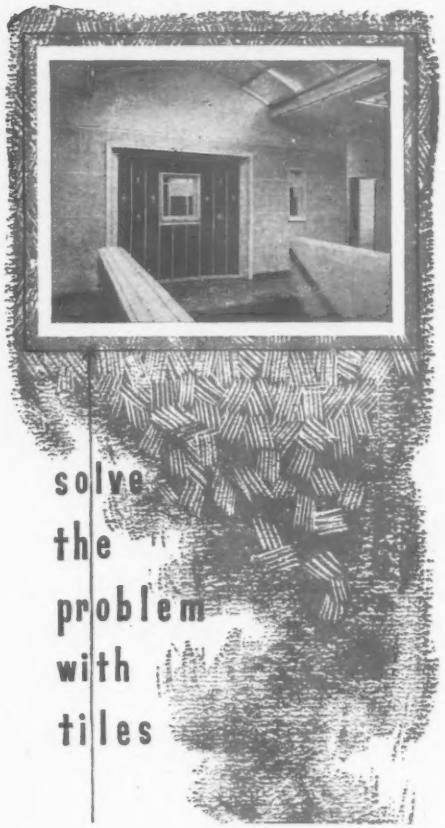

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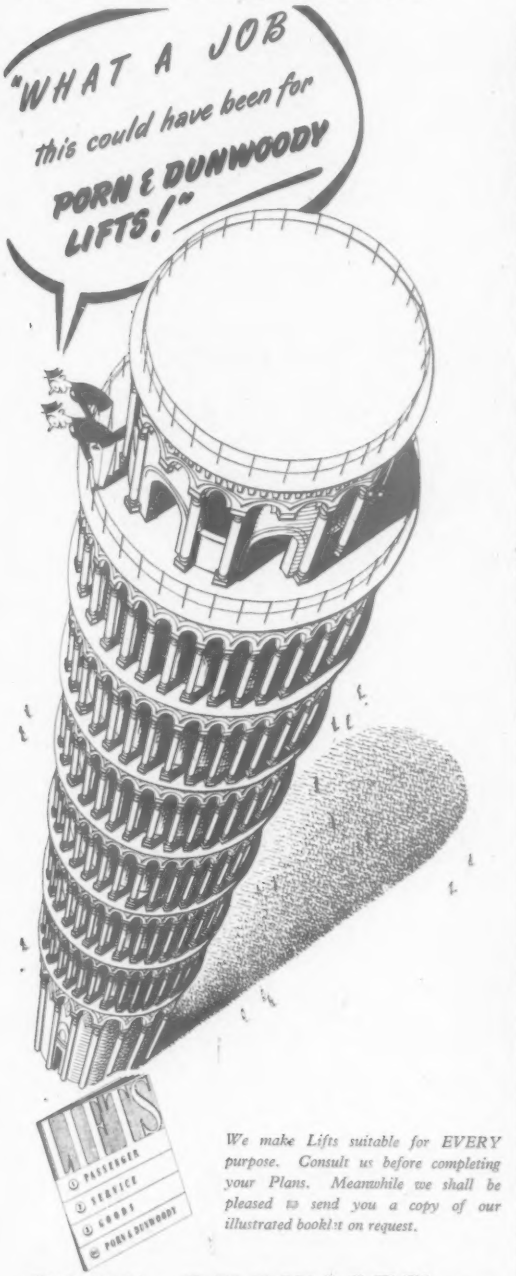

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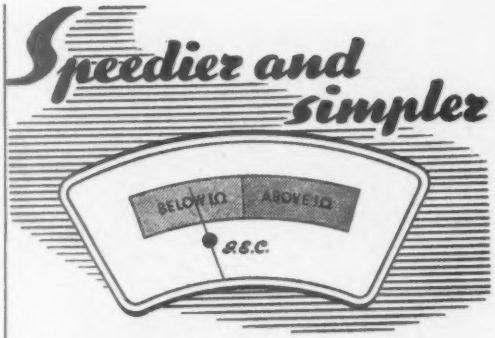

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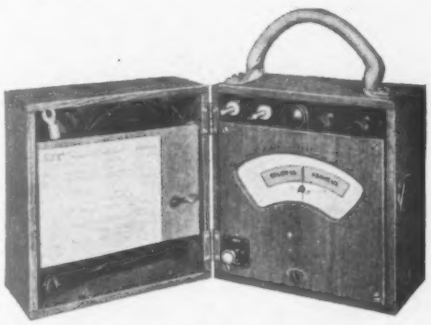

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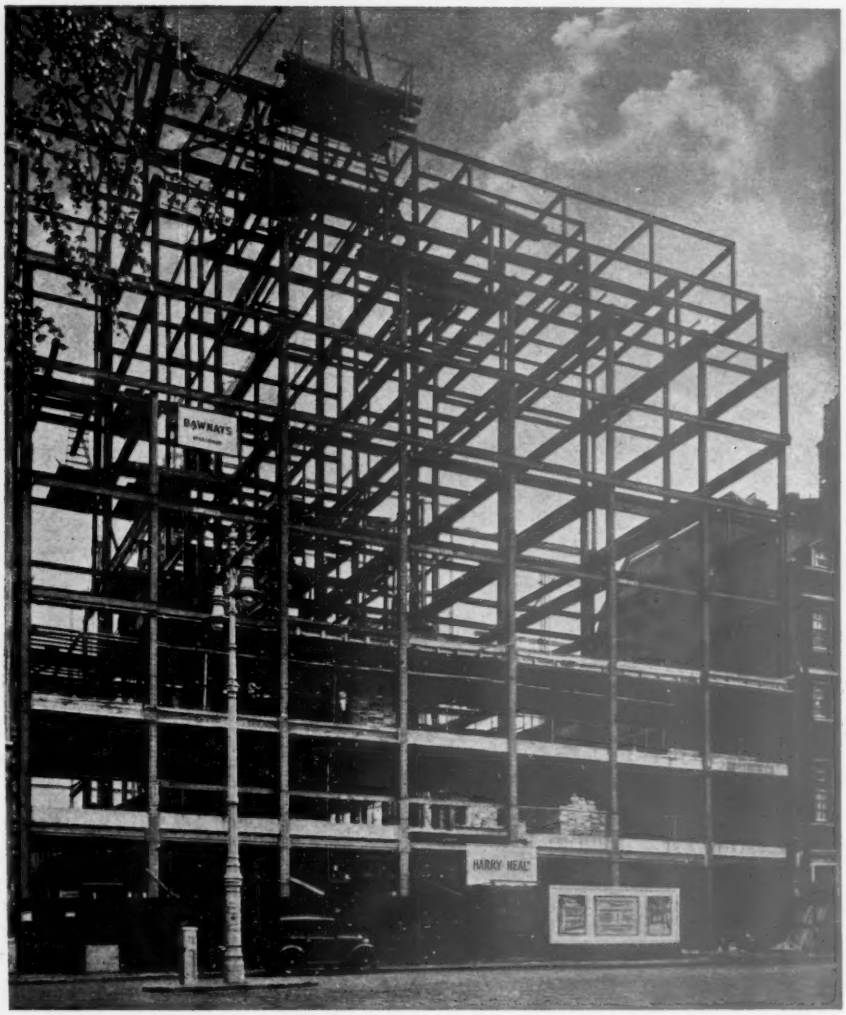

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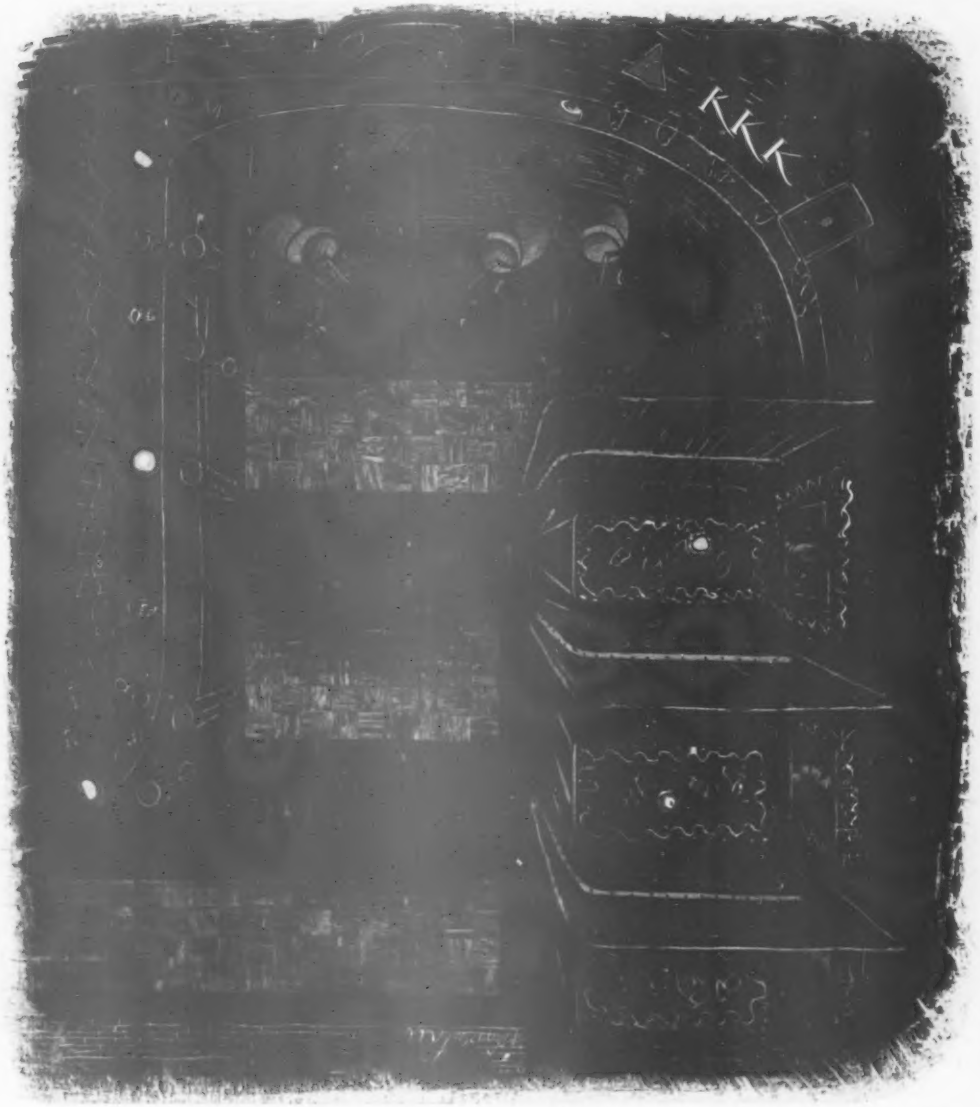

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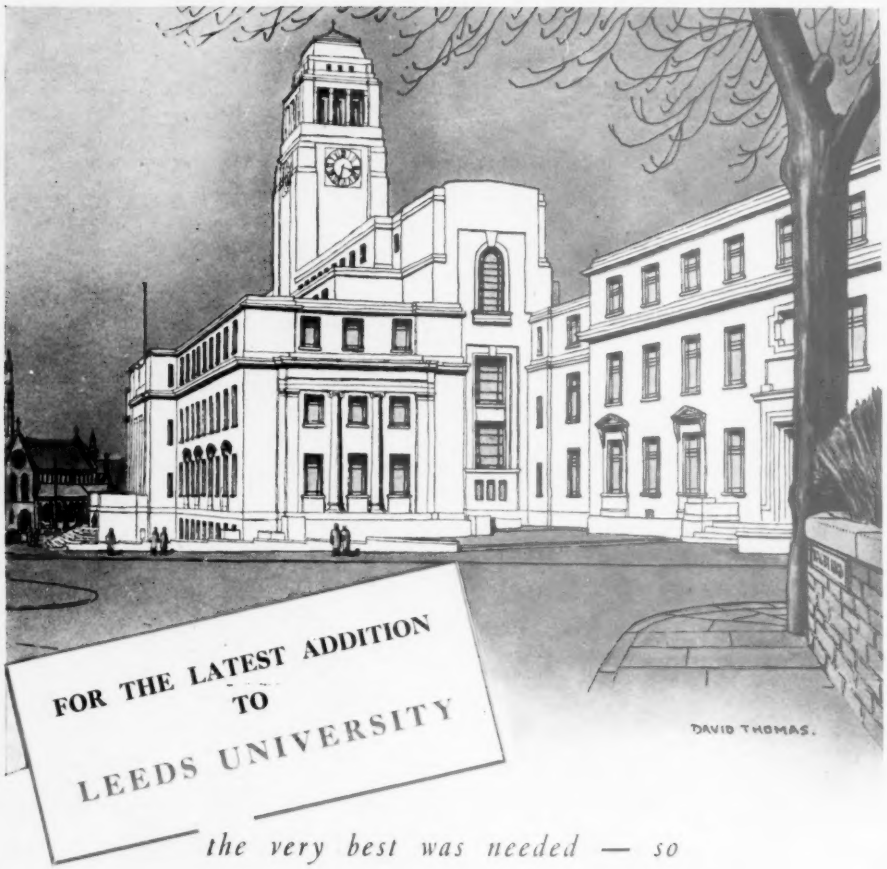

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Vol. 200. No. 4320

THE ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS

October 4, 1951

The "Architect and Building News" incorporates the "Architect," founded in 1869, and the "Building News," founded in 1854. The annual subscription, inland and overseas, is £2 15s. 0d. post paid; U.S.A. and Canada $9.00

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THE GARDINER REPORT

A GOVERNMENT "white paper" has just appeared which bears the ponderous title of the "Report of the Committee on the Organisation, Structure and Remuneration of the Works Group of Professional Civil Servants" (H.M.S.O., 1*s.* net). If we stress the word remuneration and add that "professional civil servants" means government employees who are qualified or part-qualified practitioners in a profession—architects, surveyors and engineers—some closer apprehension of what it is about can be assumed.

The Chairman of the Committee was Sir Thomas Gardiner, and the architect-representative Sir Lancelot Keay; the original basis now proposed for revision was formulated in 1946 as a result of previous committees under Sir Alan Barlow and Lord Chorley. Following the precedent of the Chorley Report, the present document will, we hope, be known as the "Gardiner Report."

Apart from the recommendations—important to all those concerned—that basic-grade salaries should be increased from £750 to £900 (maximum), main grades from £1,000 to £1,200, senior grades from £1,270 to £1,450, and that increases in the salaries of higher superintending and directing grades should also be advanced, the Report is mainly concerned with an all-round simplification of the general structure of the grading of the works group by means of reducing the number of pay levels and eliminating special allowances of all sorts in favour of fixed salaries and periodic increments. Certain other matters are dealt with, almost by the way, but are of some importance to the professions, particularly the architects.

The difficulty of providing facilities for training which has sufficient weight and quality to enable younger grades to qualify for admission to the professions (the R.I.B.A. or the like) is touched upon, but not solved. If improvers or intermediate students enter the Government employ, which of the departments can show that it is able to provide practical qualifying experience for junior staff when the latter reaches "final" stage? Some Government departments, while requiring the trained experience and advice from architects for administrative and inspection duties, do not themselves carry out or control building works, and the right kind of practical experience is therefore absent. Which departments and sub-departments qualify for "recognition" is a matter which must soon be sorted out, especially in view of the new regulations of the R.I.B.A. and of the Board of Education of A.R.C.U.K., extending the qualifying experience to 12 months, with an oral and employers' certificates at the end of the period.

The Report suggests that advantages are possible for all concerned by a more frequent interchange of staff between the various departments. Grooves are notoriously supposed to be deeper in the Civil Service than elsewhere, and this may be a way to lessen the depth.

Further the Report attempts to show that it is possible to overcome the gap which exists between sub-professional and professional classes (it exists largely because of administrative rather than practical reasons) by promoting, in exceptional cases, non-qualified members of the sub-professionals to the status of professionals, "provided their employing department is satisfied that their failure to have become a member of a professional institute will not adversely affect the performance of their work or otherwise prove embarrassing." Although the method, upon which this rather strangely worded reservation is a comment, may not be regarded as the usual procedure, that it is suggested at all will, we think, be a matter upon which the R.I.B.A. and other professional bodies may wish to comment or, perhaps, to raise notice of objection.

F

It would appear that the Committee found some soreness over the filling of top-ranking posts of the Works Group from outside the established Civil Service, and that when this occurred the individual concerned was often paid a higher salary. The Report comments that this is not open to criticism any more than it is elsewhere, outside the Service. In fact the Report says that an eminent professional man transplanted into the Civil Service should be so remunerated.

* * * * *

Smoke and Waste

Dr. Bronowski gave his Des Vœux Memorial Lecture to the National Smoke Abatement Society at the recent Blackpool Conference on a subject that, while it talked of smoke, talked of much else and, indeed, put the smoke abatement question into its right perspective in relation to the social and industrial future of this country and to its place in world affairs.

Dr. Bronowski is a wide thinker, a scientist of the rarer type who can make general syntheses about the whole field of human endeavour and yet retain the authority of cold scientific analysis at the same time—which, of course, is another way of saying he is really an artist.

His main points were that we make our own smoke, we suffer from it ourselves and then we grumble at the results. We waste 16 to 17 hundredweights of the energy of every ton of coal, and then complain that there is a fuel shortage, that we are short of sulphur, electricity and many other things. Any industrial survival or revival must be concerned with the wealth of energy we waste and not with the finding of new wealth to waste. We must, said the lecturer, " shift the source of national wealth from raw materials to industrial skill . . . it is the smoke up

Sectional factory units completed and occupied at Harlow new Town's Industrial Estate. The estate was opened recently by Mr. G. S. Lindgren, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Local Government and Planning. Each factory unit has a floor area of approximately 2,000 sq. cu. ft. The factories were built by the Corporation.

the chimney and the soot on the boiler, the steam . . . in the cooling towers and the smell round the gasworks and a million inefficient appliances in every home and factory" that are the riches that "the skill of ten generations of men bred to industry" must deal with to make our future safe.

The major conclusion to be drawn from this lecture is that with all our scientific cleverness there is not yet sufficient scientific study of the fundamental relationship between "theoretical" and "practical" science. The industrialist and the artist are left standing around in the squalor of the out-of-date wreckage of the earlier industrial revolution waiting for something to turn up. We get reminders of it from time to time, and Dr. Bronowski has done it again—with what result?

EVENTS AND COMMENTS

THE LAST LOOK ROUND

I made my last visit to the South Bank Exhibition on Wednesday evening. It was fuller than I had ever seen it and also remarkably clean. It is true that some of the exhibits and even some of the buildings were looking a little dog-eared, but in the main I thought how well everything had stood up to the months of grime. After a shaky start the maintenance staff did a very difficult job reasonably well. To all this there were, of course, exceptions outstanding among which were the many amateurly scrawled notices. I spent some time looking at things which I had missed before and am now reasonably sure that I saw everything. My very first impression of the exhibition was to wonder whether it could all be true and in London. My last impression was amazement that in a matter of weeks it would all be pulled down and vanish for ever. It was appropriate that I should meet Hugh Casson on this particular occasion. I found him in a blaze of floodlights being filmed as he walked round the exhibition with Patrick O'Donovan of the *Observer*. Eating my last meal on the South Bank I reflected that in spite of the excellent restaurants provided the caterers had done next to nothing to improve the reputation of British public eating. The food was probably the only major failure of the exhibition. One good point is, however, well worth recording and that is that the quality of the coffee served at a number of places was excellent. Doubtless the caterers had great labour difficulties to contend with and the rudeness of waiters and counter-hands which almost every visitor to the exhibition must have experienced is a sad reflection on our educational system and the mental attitude of those whose jobs involve waiting upon their fellow men.

As I write and in spite of two long and interesting articles in the *Times* there is no definite news of the future of any of the exhibition buildings or the site. Let us keep our fingers crossed and hope for the best. The office which has been set up to dispose of those festival things which are not required seems, from reports reaching me, to be singularly ill-informed about what is going on. When asked any definite question the voice on the telephone is inclined to say "well in bridge parlance I'd like to pass on that one." These teasings and criticisms must not, however, be allowed to detract from the overall success of the exhibition. All those who have enjoyed it will not easily forget the promoters, designers and administrators who made it all possible. Nor will they forget the attitude of the Beaverbrook Press.

Clerk of Works Hut, Copenhagen. photo: D. A. Vincent.

ALDERMAN ATTACKS ARCHITECTS

Judging from a report in the *Liverpool Echo* Alderman W. E. Power of Birkenhead is an exceedingly ill-informed person. At the annual conference of the Institute of Housing at Scarborough he is reported to have said the following about architects: "The Ministry must tackle the people who are too big to be spoken to—these professional gentlemen are having a rake-off from housing. They are not necessary at all, for there are standard designs and there is the common sense of the local engineer." This is the first time that I have heard the R.I.B.A. scale of charges referred to as a rake-off.

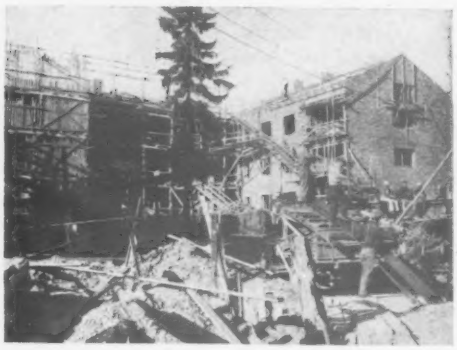
Alderman Power also attacks Quantity Surveyors because quantities cost money and you have to pay a percentage to the quantity surveyor and so add appreciably to the cost of the houses! Alderman Power should take some lessons in building if he really thinks that before the war houses were built on plans and specification alone.

ARCHITECTURE ON THE SITE

A reader, Mr. D. A. Vincent, Student R.I.B.A., has sent me the photograph which you see above of a clerk of works hut in Copenhagen. I do not know the size of the job which it serves but it is architecturally rather an improvement on the type of thing we are accustomed to see here. Doubtless better designed contractors' huts would increase still further building costs in this country where virtually any old hut is considered good enough for officials on the site. The fact remains that other countries provide better accommodation. I have seen buildings as pleasant as that in the photograph in Holland and Sweden. The best accommodation of the sort that I have seen here is in the caravan offices used by some civil engineering contractors.

HELSINKI PREPARES

My photograph shows a block of flats being built in Helsinki to house some of the 4,500 foreign athletes expected for the 1952 Olympic Games. Fourteen such blocks are being built and will be used to help lessen the local housing shortage when the games are over. Helsinki has only 5,000 hotel beds and the accommodation of 150,000 visitors to the games is providing a serious problem.



FAIRY LIGHTS

Passing through the village of Pewsey near Marlborough last week I found the whole place decorated with fairy lights. Not the new fangled electric sort but little glass jars painted different colours suspended on strings and containing night lights or candles. Each house and shop had its own supply which must have been kept for years. I do not imagine that such things can be bought in these days. At one place where a stream turns a corner these lighted pots were strung thickly across it. I wished very much that I had seen them alight.

THE "ROMAN" BATH IN STRAND LANE

Are you any sort of an archæological detective? If so you might like to try to solve the problem of the origin of the "roman" bath in Strand Lane. This bath, roughly fifteen by seven feet, was for years shown to visitors as a roman antiquity in spite of the facts that few roman remains have been found anywhere near it and that its level is considerably higher than one would expect for roman construction. The first written reference to it is dated 1784. In the nineteenth century an adjoining bath, since removed and described by its proprietor as having been built in 1588 by the Earl of Essex, was still in use. Customers were invited to inspect the "old roman spring water bath, nearly two thousand years old." After the destruction of the "Essex" bath the "roman" bath was refurbished by Henry Glave, the draper, and was apparently used once again. In 1947 the bath was given to the National Trust by Mr. Montague L. Meyer, and in spite of the doubts about its origin the L.C.C. agreed to look after it for the Trust. The spring still flows at the rate of about two thousand gallons a day. Further excavation on adjoining sites may one day clear up the mystery, meanwhile the bath is open to the public without charge from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on week-days.

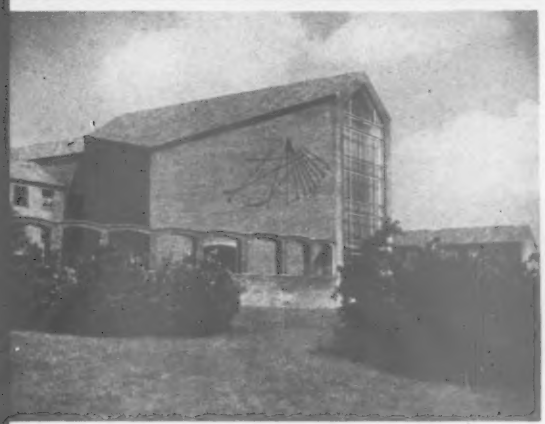
THE BUILDING EXHIBITION

It hardly seems possible that the 23rd Building Exhibition is nearly upon us. This year it will be the biggest ever and will occupy all three halls at Olympia. I understand that once again there has been no effort to group similar types of exhibits together. Many firms will be found on their traditional sites, some no doubt housed in their traditional stands. The lack of rational planning in the exhibition may annoy some people who go there with a set purpose but to the casual walker-round the general mix up provides interesting variety. A preview of some of the exhibits does not reveal anything startlingly new. There is, as yet, no structural paint, nor has the long sought sky-hook materialized. There is, however, a builder's hoist which will operate to a height of 450ft which some people should find useful.

ABNER

Five executives of the City of Rotterdam paid a visit to this country last week. Their programme included a combined talk at the Housing Centre on the Reconstruction of Rotterdam, and a luncheon at County Hall followed by an inspection of the L.C.C's. comprehensive development scheme and the F.O.B. exhibition at Lansbury, Poplar.

L.—R: J. A. C. Tillema, Director of Works,; C. Van Traa, Director of Town Planning and Reconstruction; J. Meertens, Alderman of Public Works; A. Bos, Director of Housing; J. P. Van Bruggen, Chief Director of Public Works.



HOLIDAY IN DENMARK SNAPS SENT IN BY D. A. VINCENT, B.A. Student R.I.B.A.
Aahus University, architects C. F. Moller and Kay Fisker. Top Left: Main Block. Top Right: Main Entrance. Bottom Left: Assembly Hall. Right: Faculty of Chemistry.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Harlow Factory Estate

In the absence of Mr. Dalton, the Minister, Mr. G. S. Lindgren, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Local Government and Planning, formally opened the Harlow Industrial Estate last Monday. The industrial policy of the Development Corporation is to build sectional factories to meet the needs of the "smaller man" and standard factories capable of expansion. In addition, sites are leased at a ground rent for the industrialist to develop himself. Eight sectional factory units have already been built and let, also two standard factories and one standard plus special-purpose unit. Further standard and sectional factory units are being built and three sites have been let for development by industrialists. The estate will be the subject of a special article to appear in the *A. & B.N.* shortly. Sectional factories are pictured on page 360.

New Town Proposed

The Minister of Local Government and Planning, Mr. Hugh Dalton, has now decided that he should take formal steps under the New Towns Act, 1946, towards setting up a Development Corporation to build a new town at Congleton, Cheshire. The main object of the new town will be to assist in meeting the formidable "overspill" problem faced by local authorities in South Lancashire. In selecting Congleton careful consideration has been given to the problems of providing water and other services, to the avoidance of land where there is a danger of subsidence due to salt mining and to the desirability of keeping off high-grade farm land.

The Minister is now consulting all the local authorities concerned. The authorities have been sent a sketch of the site the Minister has in mind and he has told them in a letter dated September 25, that subject to the outcome of his consultations, he will make a draft designation order.

OBITUARIES

The death was announced on September 19, of Mr. Gilbert Henry Lovegrove, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I., at Sydney, Australia.

The death has also been announced of Alderman Arthur Hewitt, J.P., of Llandudno, at the age of 75. Alderman Hewitt was a deputy-lieutenant of Caernarvonshire and a former chairman of the North Wales & South Cheshire Electricity Board.

The death has occured of Mr. Horace James Ash, A.R.I.B.A., of Nuneaton.

(*Continued on page 366*)

Quarrying Cotswold Stone

Picture shows quarryman extracting slates with the end of his pick.

General view of quarry showing the way the stratum increases in thickness in the lower part of the quarry, and the men working at different levels.

Quarryman breaking up larger pieces of stone found at the lower levels.

Cotswold stone quarries are for the most part quite small and are worked by hand. The stone varies in thickness according to the level at which it is found. The top layer resembles a brick wall in appearance and is found just beneath the soil. These small irregularly shaped stones are used for "filling in" purposes in the construction of dry walls. Beneath this layer are found large slates which are used for crazy-paving. Below this again, the stratum increases in thickness and, at this level, large blocks of stone used in the construction of walls of buildings are obtained.

photographs and notes by Colin Westwood

Cracking piece of stone to shape with special sharp-ended hammer.

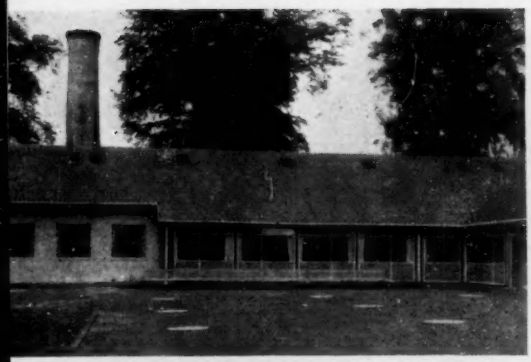
Fitting in one of the facing stones.

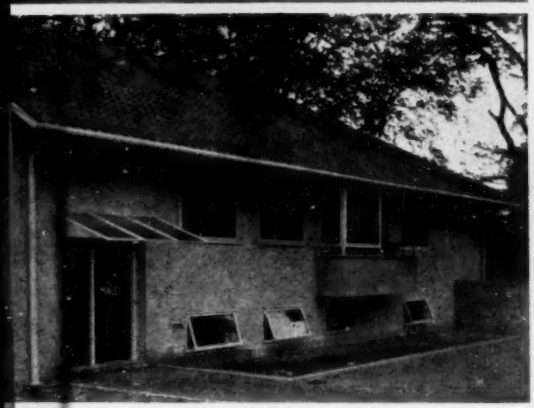
COTSWOLD DRY WALL

The wall tapers from base to top, the amount depending on the height.

The strength of the wall is derived from the way the stones in the centre are carefully chosen for their shape and size. These are laid so that they cover the gap between the stones beneath them. The facing stones are only used to give a neat appearance to the wall and apparently perform no other function. No mortar is used and I was told by the craftsman in the picture that these walls would last at least fifty years without attention.

Filling hole with stone which has previously been chosen from nearby heap.





HOLIDAY IN DENMARK: PHOTOS BY D. A. VINCENT, B.A., Student R.I.B.A.

Left : New School, designed by Hans Langhilde. Top : Classrooms. Bottom : Caretaker's quarters. Walls in light buff brick. Roof, multi-coloured tiles.

Right : Old People's Home, designed by F. C. Lund, City Architect of Copenhagen. Top : Canteen. Bottom : General view. Walls of red brick, painted buff behind balcony. Roof, asbestos tile.

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Harry A. Wheeler, A.R.I.B.A., D.A. (Glas), Grissell Gold Medallist, Neale Bursar, of Markinch, Fife, Chief Assistant Architect at Glenrothes New Town Corporation, has been appointed Senior Lecturer and Student Instructor of Architecture at Dundee College of Art.

Mr. Wheeler studied at Glasgow School of Architecture.

Mr. Alister Maynard has been appointed Chief Officer to the Scottish Committee of the Council of Industrial Design in succession to Mr. Wyndham Goodden and will take up duty immediately.

Mr. Misha Black, O.B.E., F.S.I.A., M.Inst.R.A., Director of Design Research Unit, has been appointed Consultant to the Government of Ceylon in connection with the Colombo Plan Exhibition, covering some 40 acres, to be held in Colombo in February, 1952.

Misha Black, who has already made one visit to Ceylon, will be flying there again for a series of short visits between now and the opening of the Exhibition.

In addition to acting as Consultant on the planning and design of the Exhibition as a whole, Misha Black will also be responsible, in collaboration with his colleagues of Design Research Unit, for the detailed design of some of the pavilions and their displays.

These will include several exhibits for the Government of Ceylon and the whole of the United Kingdom Pavilion.

COMING EVENTS

The Housing Centre Trust.

October 16, 4.45 p.m. Annual General Meeting, Professor Sir Patrick Abercrombie will be in the chair.

6 p.m. "Scottish Housing Since the War," speaker: R. J. Gardner-Medwin, Chief Planning Officer, Department of Health for Scotland.

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

October 4 (to-day), at 4 p.m. General Meeting at Goldsmiths' Hall, E.C.2. The Rt. Hon. Lord Macmillan will address the meeting.

The Institution of Structural Engineers.

October 11, 6 p.m. Meeting at 11, Upper Belgrave Street, London, S.W.1. Presidential Address by Mr. Walter C. Andrews, O.B.E.

Students' Planning Group.

October 11, 6.15 p.m. "Social and Economic Developments in China," speaker: Joseph Needham, M.A., Ph.D., Sc.D., F.R.S., at The Planning Centre, 28, King Street, W.C.2.

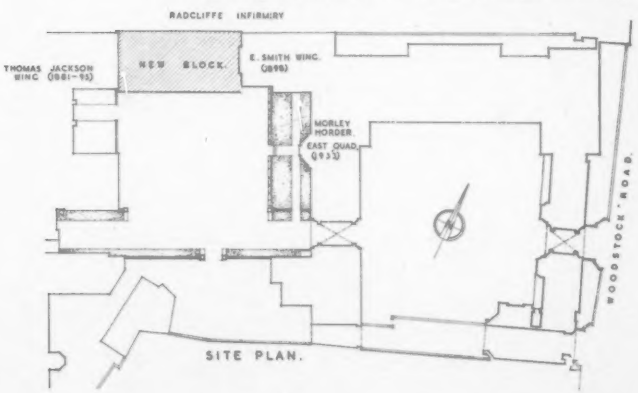
CORRECTION

The subcontractors for glazed tiles for Trinity Church, Poplar, illustrated in last week's issue were Carter & Sons, London, Ltd., and not Carter & Co., Ltd., as printed.

New block: Somerville College, Oxford

ARCHITECT: GEDDES HYSLOP, F.R.I.B.A.

THE site of the building was previously occupied by a one-storey structure, connecting on the West the original nucleus of the College, built by Sir Thomas Jackson in 1881, with a slightly later building on the East. The North wall is immediately on the boundary of the College and faces the Radcliffe Hospital; windows were permitted in this wall to light the passages.



SITE PLAN.

The building in the West has greater storey heights and a more lofty roof than that on the East, where the second floor is partly in the roof and very cramped. A through way was required on each floor connecting with stairs in the adjacent blocks.

The floor levels of the new building are level with those of the lower building on the East, necessitating steps to reach higher levels on the

West. As it was not possible to continue the roof line of either building, a flat roof with parapets was decided on.

. The walls of the existing structure were retained as far as possible, the inner wall of the Cloister being the face of the former building.

Accommodation

On the Ground Floor are store rooms, an outside lavatory for the male employees, and a cloister for bicycles.

On both the first and second floors are four bed-sitting rooms, a bathroom and w.c. with a pantry and bathroom adjoining in the existing building at the west end.

The bed-sitting rooms are approximately 10ft 7in × 17ft and have a built-in lavatory basin, cupboard and bookcase at the passage end.

Structure and Finishes

The exterior walls are load bearing 14in. The walls adjoining the corridor and the partitions between the bed-sitting rooms 4½in brickwork.

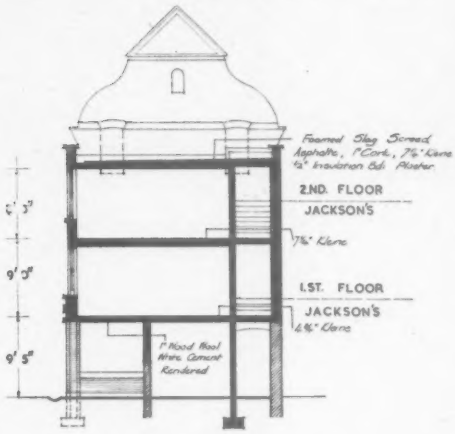
The front wall rests on a R.C. beam, supported on R.C. columns. The columns are faced with purpose-made bricks. To gain the maximum height the cloister has a level ceiling, the beam upstanding in the wall above. The ceiling and the inner wall of the cloister are rendered in coloured cement. The ceiling is lined for insulation with 2in wood wool slabs.

Coping and cills are of Clipsham stone, the cloister paved in reconstructed stone.

The floors and roof are of Kleine hollow tiles, screeded and finished on the upper floors with cork tiles and skirting.

The roof is insulated with 1in cork and screeded with foamed slag. The covering is asphalt with Sparmat finish. The second floor ceilings are lined with insulating board and plastered. Damp courses and flashings are of copper. The bed-sitting rooms have built-in electric fires, surrounded by eggshell tiles and framed in Clipsham stone. Window boards are of oak, projecting over the radiators. Decoration is distemper and painted woodwork.

The corridors are painted in gloss paint and have eggshell tile window cills. The doors are faced with mahogany plywood, wax polished.



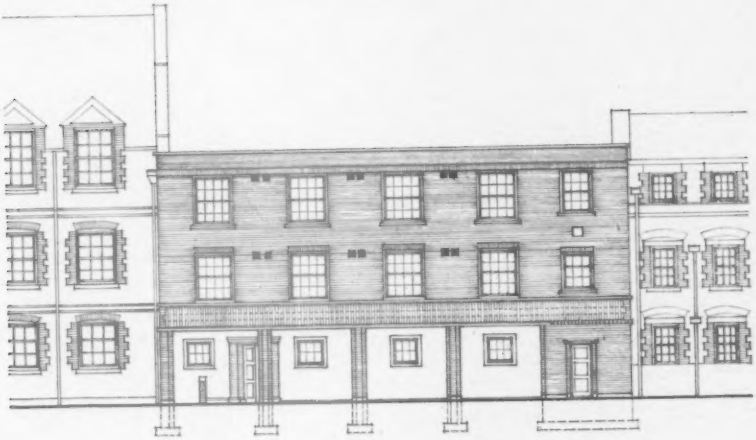
CROSS SECTION LOOKING WEST.

All first and second floor windows are sashed with Unique sash balances.

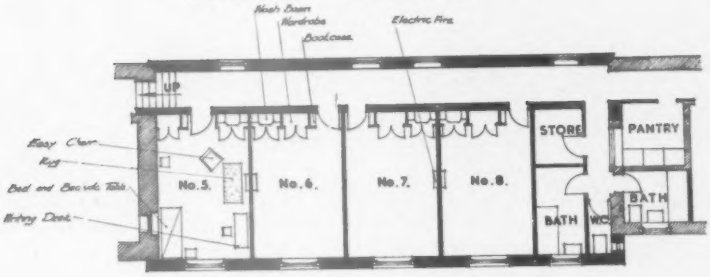
The heating and hot water installations are connected to existing oil-fired boilers.

Excluding work in the adjoining buildings, the approximate cost of the new building was £8,125, i.e., 4s per foot cube.

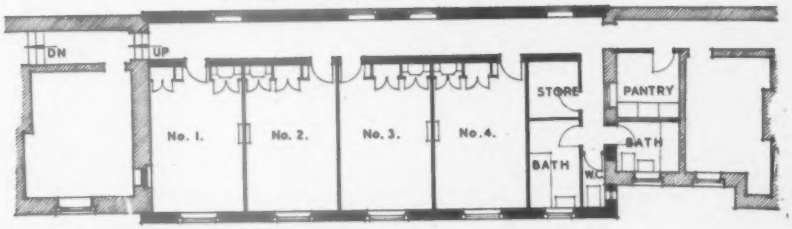
Quantity surveyor: Cameron & Middleton. *General contractors:* S. Hutchins & Green, Ltd., Oxford (Foreman, Mr. Fathers). *Bricks—facing:* Finnis, Ruault & Nicholls, Ltd. *Cork flooring:* E. J. Elgood, Ltd. *Doors—solid flush:* Samuel Elliott & Sons (Reading), Ltd. *Distemper:* The Walpamur Co., Ltd. *Electric fires:* W. N. Froy & Sons, Ltd. *Electrical installation:* Lowe & Oliver, Ltd., Oxford. *Electric light fittings:* Oswald Hollmann. *Heating and hot water installation:* Fred. G. Alden, Ltd., Oxford. *Floors:* The Kleine Co., Ltd. *Ironmongery:* Yannedis & Co., Ltd. *Joinery:* S. Hutchins & Green, Ltd. *Paint:* General & Industrial Paints, Ltd. *Plumbing:* S. Hutchins & Green, Ltd. *Sanitary fittings:* John Bolding & Sons, Ltd. *Stonework:* S. Hutchins & Green, Ltd. *Furniture* (1st floor): Heal's Contracts, Ltd.



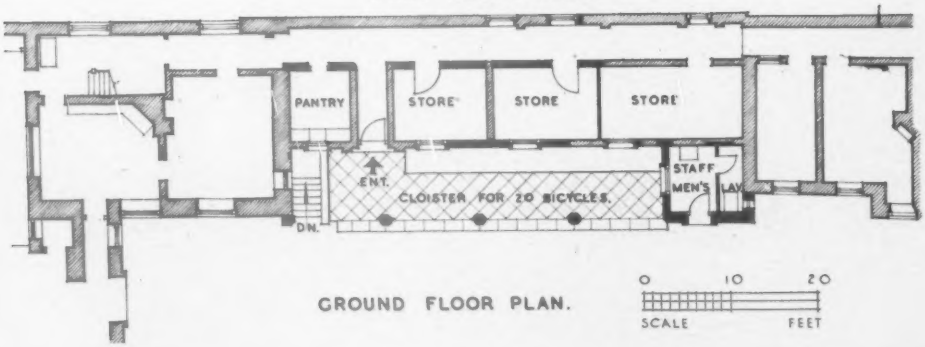
SOUTH ELEVATION.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN.



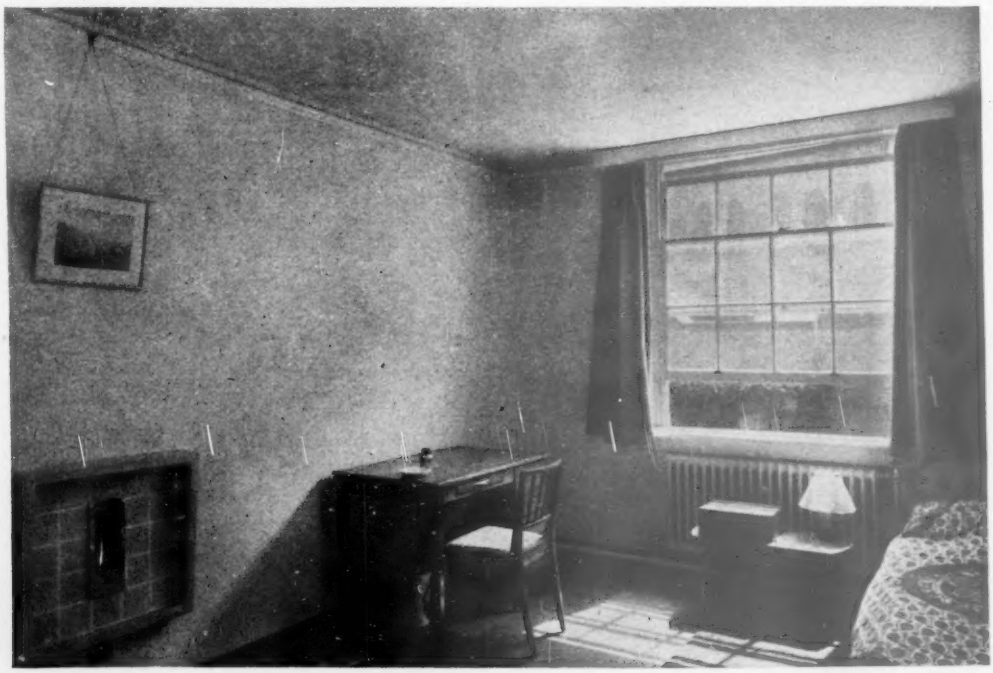
FIRST FLOOR PLAN.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN.

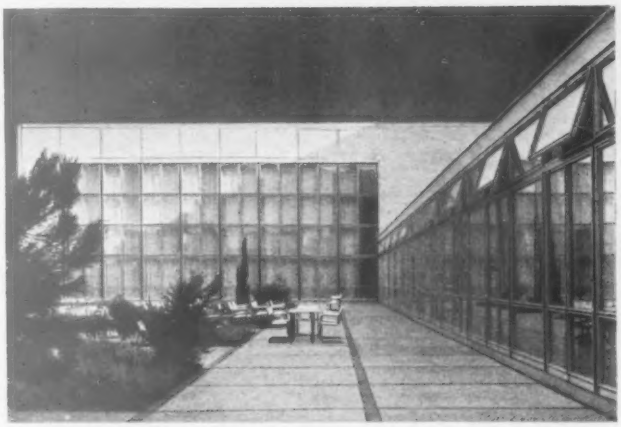
Above : typical bed-sitting room, showing fittings on inner wall. Below : the window side showing electric fire with Clipsham stone surround.

SOMERVILLE COLLEGE, OXFORD

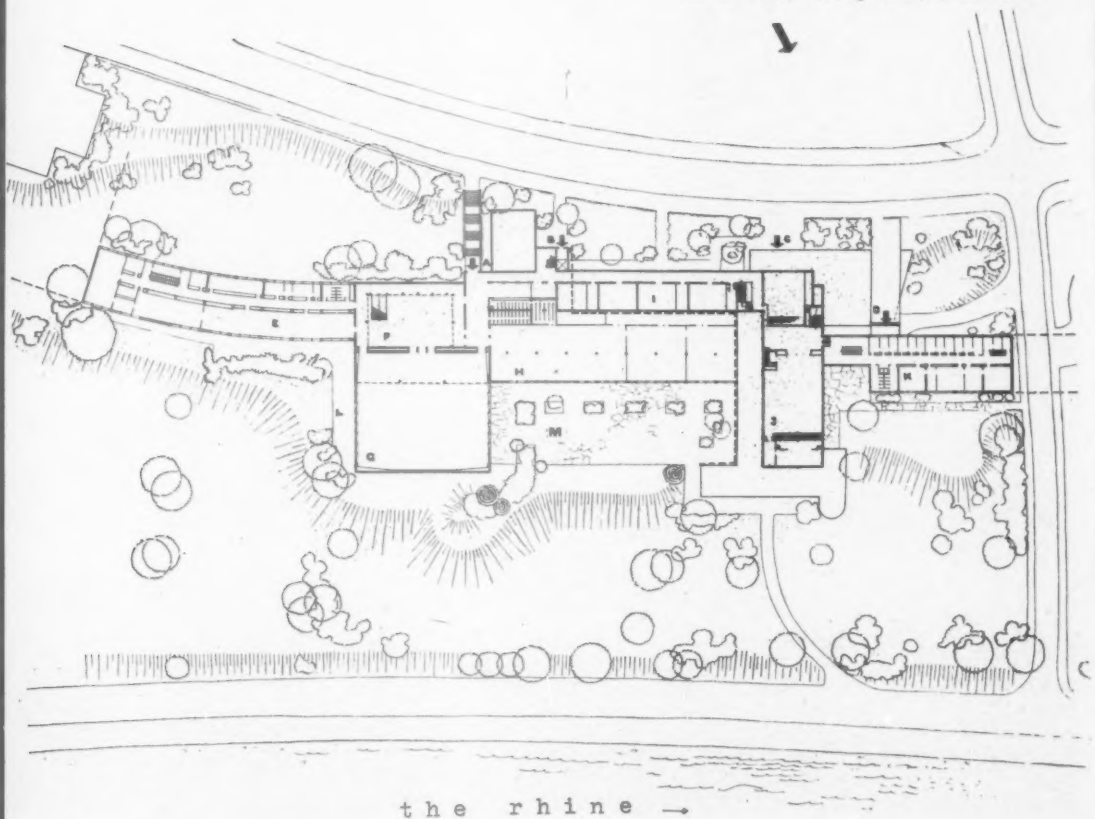


BONN Parliament Building

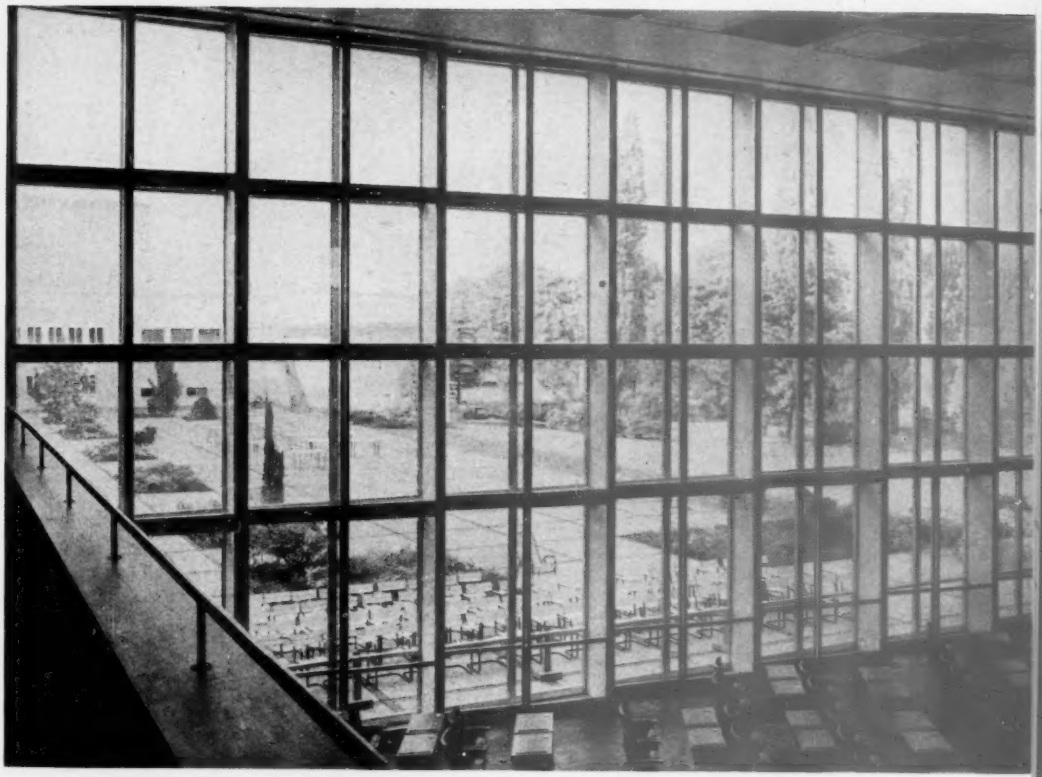
architect:
PROFESSOR
HANS SCHWIPPERT

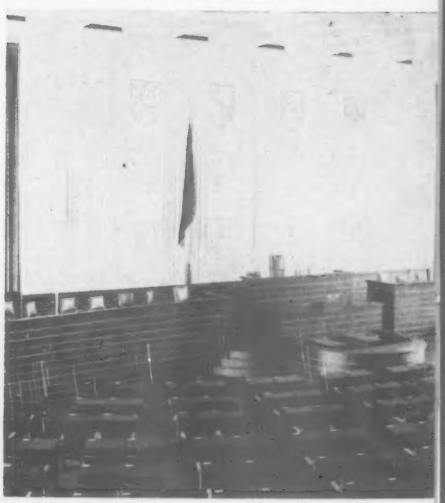


The exterior of the Large Hall from the terrace

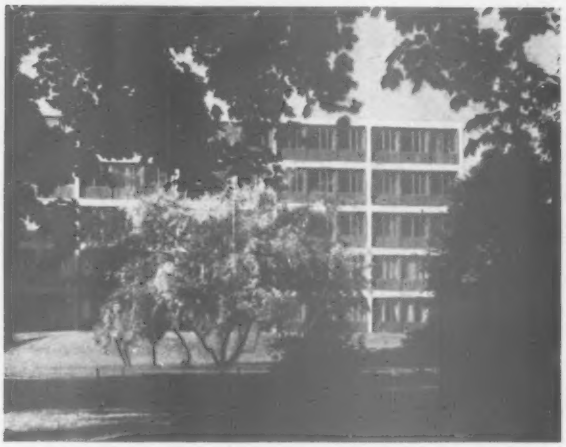


A. New separate entrance to Hall.
B. Lift.
C. Old main entrance.
D. New entrance, offices, Upper House.
E. Waiting room, offices, Lower House.
F. Foyer.
G. Large Hall, Lower House.
H. Restaurant.
I. Small (old) Hall, Lower House.
K. Office block, Upper House.
L. South terrace.
M. North terrace





The Large Hall and the Præsidium of the Lower House. The idea of the window walls is to enable the public to watch parliament at work. The Hall is also used for concerts.



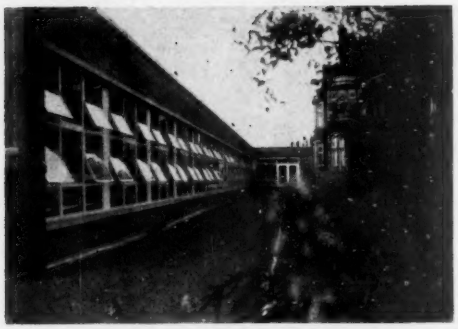
BONN PARLIAMENT BUILDING

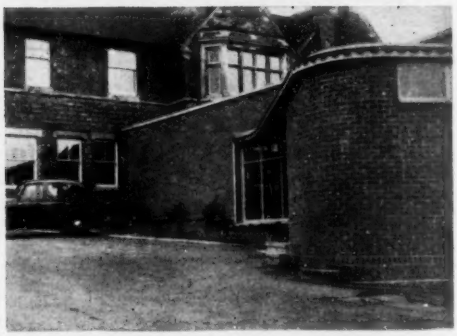
Exterior of the Office Block

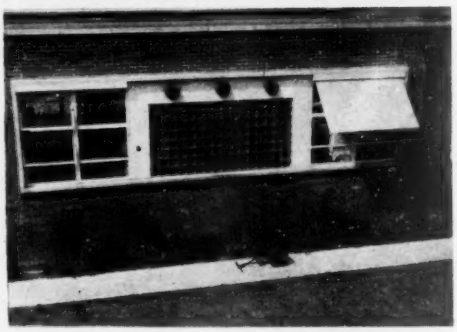
The Restaurant

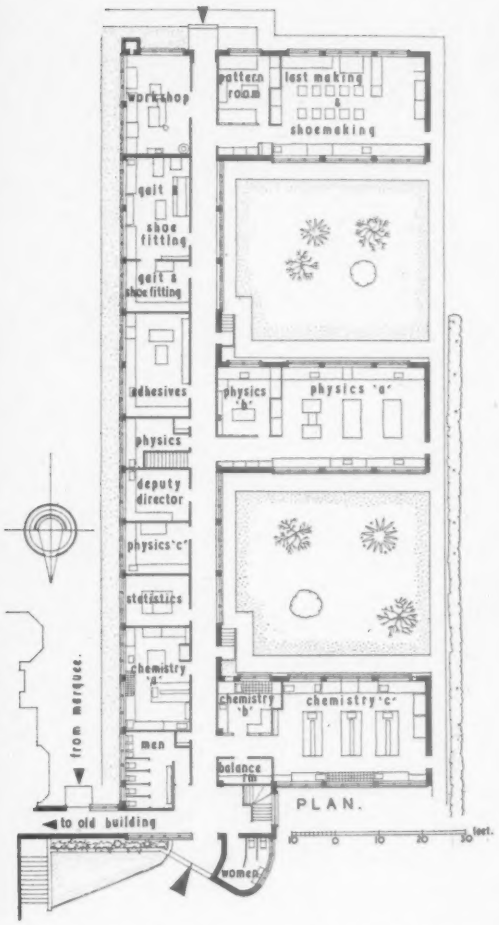
Staircase to first floor

architect:
HANS SCHWIPPERT









Boot & Shoe Research Laboratories, Kettering

architects: GOTCH, SAUNDERS & SURRIDGE

THIS building for the British Boot, Shoe and Allied Trades Association forms the main laboratories, while the old building houses the Director's room, Administrative and Clerical offices, the Library and the Industrial Division offices, etc.

The plan provides for a very flexible arrangement of rooms as there are no internal constructional walls. Future extensions can be made either laterally to the south or vertically by superimposing an additional storey.

Maximum natural light has been obtained by allowing windows to fit directly between stanchions without intervening brick piers. To enable all wall and floor space, and in particular space under windows, to be covered with benching, heating units have been incorporated in flat ceiling panels.

The steel frame is faced externally with bricks and a 6in. inner lining of "foamed slag concrete" blocks with a 3in. cavity between bricks and blocks. Roof and floors are of precast concrete units. Floors, except lavatories, are covered with cork tiles. Ceilings are covered underneath by radiator panels and plastered ceiling board, fixed to 4in. battens. The space between concrete slabs and finished ceiling is used for heating and electrical conduits. All windows are designed to allow future glazing with the new "double glass," and all windows facing south have built-in sun blinds.

Heating is by a low-pressure hot-water system from automatic gas-fired boilers, the ceiling panel radiators are thermostatically controlled from the laboratories.

The Consulting Engineers were E. G. Phillips, Son & Norfolk, of Nottingham. General Contractors :—O. P. Drever & Son, Ltd., Kettering. Heating and Hot Water Engineers :—S. Booth Horrocks & Sons, Ltd., Kettering. Electrical Contractors :—Messrs. Barnett & Soans, Kettering.

COLSTON HALL

A COMPARATIVE laymen's consumer-reaction (e.g., as a concert-goer) to the restored Colston Hall at Bristol is that it is a strange, and in many ways very successful adaptation of elderly into brand new.

The exterior is still the gaunt, unlovely, barnlike building whose bulk has long risen, behind a "Bristol Byzantine" facade, from above the roofs in the middle of the city. One still uses as the main entrance the gloomy, heavy, Victorian-Italianate vestibule with its vaguely ceremonial stairs, and such an entry only serves the more to emphasize the amazing contrast with the completely twentieth-century interior. For it comes as an æsthetic shock to come from the vestibule to the auditorium—it is as if the Crush Bar at Covent Garden had survived a fire which made necessary the rebuilding of the whole opera house interior in the manner of the Royal Festival Hall.

Comparisons with the Festival Hall are inevitable, for the idiom of South Bank is, with subtle variations, that of the inner sanctum of the hall at Bristol.

The two interiors belong to the same school of auditorium design; that at Bristol, being not only confined within the wall-space of a mid-Victorian building, but also repeating some of the details of the upstairs seating plan of its immediate predecessor, is slightly the more conventional of the two. There are, for instance, none of the projecting boxes of the Festival Hall, but a quasi-box effect is given by the continuation, in zigzag outline, of the gallery front. So too, the conductor conducts, not at virtually floor level, but on a platform of the normal height.

The acoustics of the new hall are exceedingly good, and the building is one that demands great respect and care from those who perform in it.

The hall is a good deal smaller than at South Bank, and seems smaller than it really is. The interior has a pleasant, austere, unadorned colour scheme, and one sits beneath a particularly satisfying, unbroken concave ceiling. The seating (for 2,200) is fairly close-spaced, and comfortable without being outstandingly so; the delightful shade of green in which it is upholstered is the main touch of bright colour about the interior. One has always to remember that the hall is a multi-purpose building, and that it has to cater for such events as political meetings and wrestling bouts as well as music and religious gatherings. The seats are therefore liberally provided with ash trays, but at such an occasion as a concert there is only one "no smoking" notice displayed, and that not of the most conspicuous. The lighting is excellent when dimmed, but it seemed to me to be on the over-bright side when all lights are on. The gangway-space is exceedingly good and generous, making circulation within the auditorium a real pleasure and getting away very easy, even with a packed hall.

The trouble comes when one is in the fringes, and here the Colston Hall is a prisoner of its past and compares poorly with a completely new building such as that on South Bank. It is in the accessory parts that one sees acutely the contrast with the scientific thoughtfulness of a building carefully designed, on a clear site, to minister to all the senses and tastes. For the foyer-space is definitely cramped except in the draughty main entrance, the buffets are too small and very cramped, and the cloakrooms are congested and inadequate. The trouble is not the fault of the designers of the new hall; it lies in a sheer lack of space within the confines of the Victorian outer walls. Nor is there much hope of lateral expansion, for there are roads on each side of the site and a really drastic widening could only come from the complete pulling down and refashioning of the whole front of the building which is really a double one, a main hall separated from a small theatre (which survived the fire of 1945) by the staircase and vestibule.

But the auditorium is what matters, and there one can say without reserve that the reconstructors have scored a triumph and have given Bristol by far the best public hall in the western counties. Their achievement throws into ever sharper relief the poverty, in this respect, of the neighbouring city of Bath.

B.L.

CORRESPONDENCE

L.C.C. Type Plans

To the Editor of A. & B. N.

Sir,—I notice in the L.C.C. type plans for Flats, published in your issue of Sept. 20, the size of the largest bedroom is, in every case, around the figure of 120 square feet. The Ministry of Health requirement is a maximum of 135 square feet.

Is the Minister about to reduce standards to this extent or, alternatively, is the L.C.C. getting or asking for special concessions? Can other L.A.s follow this lead and, if so, would the Minister approve their schemes?

I do not know who answers such questions, but it would be interesting and not unhelpful to some concerned with housing to have official answers promptly.

I am, etc.,
ANON.
(Name and address given.)

Assembly Rooms, York

To the Editor of A. & B. N.

Sir,—I notice in your issue of September 13 a reference to the York Assembly Rooms and Mr. Arthur Boys who directed the restoration.

May I point out that this restoration was supervised and directed by me as City Engineer and Architect through my Architectural Department. The Committee appointed Mr. Boys as Consultant only on the decorative scheme.

I am, etc.,
CHAS. J. MINTER,
City Engineer.

The A.A. Badge Competition

To the Editor of A. & B. N.

Sir,—Of course, the old badge needs redesigning. It is utterly inappropriate to the present day. But what about the motto, "Design in Beauty—Build in Truth"? Do these words still convey a message?

"Beautiful" is a word so long and so unanimously tabooed by every critic that one is led to wonder whether the young have any recollection of its ever being applied (as a term of praise) to a building. "Significant"—yes, at one time: later, "Interesting": then "Amusing": now perhaps "Contemporary": all these signified or signify deep approval. But NOT "Beautiful."

"Building in Truth" never had a literal meaning, though no doubt it once meant something in a metaphorical way. There was also the advantage that one could interpret it as one chose. But its irrevelance to-day is incontestable.

I suggest an alternative motto: "DESIGN WITH LIBERTY—BUILD WITH LICENCE."

This has everything we need to-day. The "free" plan, the "free" social services, the airy contempt for precedent, the iconoclastic attitude to what was once deemed wisdom—all these are of the essence of the Contemporary (capital C please) attitude. And without a Licence you can't build at all, you must stick to your designing. You certainly won't get one if you tell the Truth!

I am tempted to expand the theme indefinitely, but I must spare your space and your spatial relationships.

Should anyone object to my proposal—well, let them change it again if, and when, conditions ever alter.

I am, etc.,
HUGH P. CRALLAN.

* * *

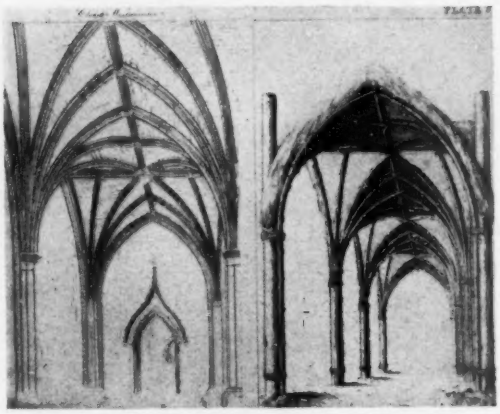
Social Research Unit

The Nuffield Foundations have recently made a grant for the establishment of a Social Research Unit in the Town Planning Department at University College, London. The Head of the Department is Professor W. G. Holford, and the work of the Unit will be directed by Mrs. Ruth Glass. Studies will be undertaken, initially for a period of two years, into certain social aspects of town and country planning. The address of the Social Research Unit is 98, Gower Street, W.C.1.

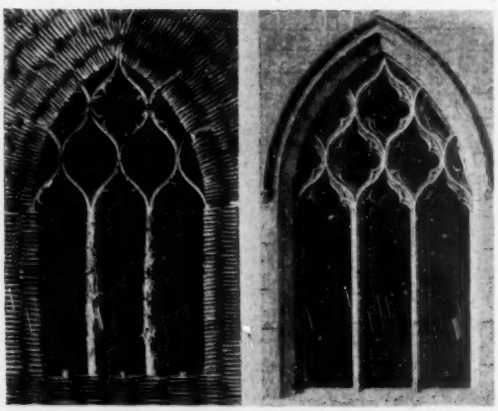
Timber Origins

AMONG the provocative scraps of information which the student of architectural history acquires is one to the effect that the Doric Order was derived from elementary timber construction, and that, for some inexplicable reason, when timber supplies grew scarce, the structural forms were reproduced in stone and marble. The argument is not particularly convincing, even if the idea might have its attractions in the light of our present timber shortage.

In the nineteenth century, however, the theory found many supporters, and only a few, most notably Viollet-le-Duc, raised a protest at the whole idea, and especially at the suggestion that the Doric *guttae* were merely the *caput mortuum* of dowels, which held the timbers together in what must seem to be the most unlikely places.



Timber origin of Gothic vaulting



Wicker origin of tracery

To me, the theory always seemed to prove either that architectural students were extraordinarily gullible, or that somehow or other I had failed to grasp some overwhelmingly significant fact which was obvious to my fellow and to nineteenth-century historians. It was, therefore, with some delight that the other day I came across a most extraordinary book, published in 1813, which carried the theory of timber origins a remarkable step forward. This book, *The Origin, History and Principles of Gothic Architecture*, set out to prove that not only Greek but also Gothic architecture had its origin in timber construction. Nor was the author content merely to theorize. "*The whole of this theory*," he wrote, "*has been submitted to an experimental test, by the construction of a wicker fabric now standing in my garden. In it all the peculiar forms of Gothic architecture have been restored to their original state. The facility which has attended this restoration is very satisfactory, and affords, I conceive, no small confirmation of the theory by which it has been accomplished.*"

The author, Sir James Hall, first propounded his idea in a paper read to the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1797, and received such support that he was encouraged to continue his researches for a further fifteen years, the result of which was a handsome folio and the curious structure in the garden.

Every feature was carefully considered. The incidence of crockets was justified by the natural burgeoning from the main stems. Their appearance in high places such as steeples, where, in his structure, the branches could have no direct contact with the ground, was explained by the custom of decorating churches on Palm Sunday with fresh twigs. Even the most complex tracery and vaulting was shown to have originated in simple wicker-work. It is all delightfully easy. The transition from Early English to Decorated becomes obvious as each bud unfolds and creates a further crocket; as each branch is added for reinforcement to produce a flowing tracery. And when we clear away the thicket and allow for the natural deflection of the arched branches under the load of thatch, we arrive, of course, at the Perpendicular style.

"*Where an obvious source presents itself*," he concluded, "*to which all these forms infinitely varied in all other particulars, and agreeing in this alone, can easily be traced, may we not presume that the genuine origin of the style is discovered?*" But there are some outstanding facts which were more difficult to explain away, the chief being that it was commonly accepted that Gothic architecture was the successor to Romanesque; and it would be difficult to suggest that the heavy, round-arched Romanesque had a timber origin. "*In answering this objection*," he wrote, "*I must admit that some parts of the subject are involved in obscurity which I cannot pretend to penetrate.*"

But Sir James did not hesitate for long. If his theory were correct, there must be some answer. Are we *sure* that Romanesque architecture is earlier than Gothic, just because the surviving Romanesque buildings are older than the surviving Gothic buildings? "*There is no direct evidence*," he said, "*that the twelfth century was the period*

The Gothic Pavilion in wicker-work, or Battersea anticipated.

The illustrations are reproduced by courtesy of Manchester Central Library

of its [Gothic] first introduction. Buildings of this sort may have been erected at far earlier periods, without having been preserved; or Gothic works may exist at this hour, the antiquity of which is far greater than has been supposed."

We breathe again; the theory stands. "*Gothic architecture is not disgraced by a comparison with the first works of antiquity.*" For both owed their origin to timber construction!

CECIL STEWART

Information Digest

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

● **British Standards and Codes of Practice** issued by the British Standards Institution 24/28 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Abbey 3333.

British Standard Code of Practice. 112.100. Draft Code : **Preservative Treatments for Timber in Buildings.** Price 2/-.

The Council for Codes of Practice for Buildings has now issued for comment Code 112.100, "Preservative Treatments for Timber in Buildings," prepared for the Council by a Committee convened by the Institution of Structural Engineers. This Code deals with the preservation of timber by means of wood preservatives against fungal and insect attack, and sets out recommendations for the structural use of preserved timbers in buildings. It does not deal with the protection of timbers against fire or mechanical damage, nor with the methods of minimizing the decay hazard of untreated timber by means of seasoning, ventilation and painting.

The Code mentions the circumstances in which the use of preservative treatments against fungal and insect attack is desirable, and gives notes on the durability of the different species of timber. It describes varieties of wood-destroying fungi, the various types of wood-destroying insects, and the effects of these forms of attack.

Guidance is given in assessing the factors affecting the choice of preservatives, on the preparation of timber for treatment and the methods of treatment and conditioning after treatment. A table relates types of preservatives and methods of application to the various users of timber. The code is in draft form and is subject to amendment in the light of comments.

British Standard Code of Practice C.P. 332.303 (1951). Installation of Gas Fired Boilers for Central Heating by Hot Water. Price 3/-.

The Council for Codes of Practice for Buildings has now published in final form Code 332.303, "Installation of Gas Fired Boilers for Central Heating by Hot Water." The Code includes consideration of points appropriate to boilers required to provide hot water for domestic purposes in addition to space heating. The design of space heating and domestic hot-water systems is dealt with in other Codes. The Code was previously issued as a draft for comment and has now been revised by a Committee convened on the Council's behalf by the Institution of Gas Engineers.

The Code lists essential points on which information should be obtained before installation is commenced and to enable the work to be fitted into a time schedule. It also affords guidance on the selection of the type and number of boilers most suitable for the heating installation to be served, having regard to adequacy of boiler rating, flexibility in meeting variations in the load and preserving continuity of supply.

Details of clearances to allow accessibility are given and recommendations made on fire precautions and on gas supply and connections, including the master control cock and safety devices. Various automatic controls, their functions and major components, are described, and advice given on points of design. Packing, storage, assembly, adjustment, testing and maintenance of boilers are also dealt with. Typical installations are illustrated in a series of diagrams showing various combinations of controls and equipment, and their points of connection.

British Standard Code of Practice C.P. 121.101. (1951). Brickwork. Price 6/-.

The Council for Codes of Practice for Buildings has now issued in final form Code 121.101, "Brickwork." The Code was previously published as a draft for comment and has now been revised by a Committee convened on behalf of the Council, by the Royal Institute of British Architects.

This Code deals with brickwork in general and with the erection of brick walls in particular. It contains detailed recommendations on the quality and type of materials for various purposes, including bricks for internal and external use, and materials for mortar. Recommendations are given for materials suitable for damp-proof courses, sills and lintels, copings, metal reinforcement, flashings and weatherings and for air-bricks and wall-ties.

The section dealing with design contains information on the exclusion of rain penetration (including a table on the suitability of different types of walls for various exposure conditions), on fire-resistance and fire-grading of brick walls, on thermal transmittance and stresses, sound insulation, control of shrinkage cracking and durability. Recommendations are given on the mixing proportions for mortars and information is included on bonding, jointing and pointing, damp-proof courses, spacing of wall-ties, bearings on floors and roofs, parapets and copings, metal flashings and weatherings. Recommendations in the section dealing with work on site cover storage, methods of setting out, laying of damp-proof courses and bricklaying generally. The actual mixing of cement mortar, Portland cement/lime mortars, and lime mortars are dealt with in detail.

Appendices contain specification clauses for hydraulic limes and quick-hardening limes. A table is included, giving sound insulation data in respect of brick walls with or without linings.

The Code contains twenty-seven figures, among which are diagrams illustrating the position of damp-proof courses in solid and hollow walls and parapet walls.

Fifty Years of British Standards. Price 10/6.

The British Standards Institution celebrates its first half-century of achievement this year. The problem of standardization had been recognized as early as 1895 in relation to the extensive range of steel girders used in engineering work, and as a result of the early interest of a London iron merchant, the Institution of Civil Engineers formed a committee in January, 1901, to consider the advisability of standardizing a range of iron and steel sections. Since that date the British Standards Institution has carried on such work and has been the instigator of standardization in many fields and for many industries. It is affiliated to similar bodies all over the world, and is the oldest body of its kind in existence. The work of the B.S.I. is known and recognized throughout the world, and Architects have been particularly concerned with a great deal of its work relative to the Building Industry. The Institution is supported by the industries concerned, the Government, and various professional bodies. Many hundreds of members of professional bodies give a great deal of service to the work of the Institution in voluntary capacity, and not least of these is the Royal Institute of British Architects, which is represented by its members through the B.S.I. Co-ordinating Committee of the Architectural Science Committee, on all Standards Drafting Committees which are in any way concerned with materials or components used in the Building Industry.

To celebrate the first half-century of British Standards, the Institution has published this book entitled "Fifty Years of British Standards," with a foreword by its President, Sir John Anderson. The book gives the history of standards in this country, explains how the Institution works, and gives a very clear and concise picture of the impact of standardization on the industry of this country. The book includes the history of some of the early pioneers of British Standards, including the late Mr. Percy Good, whose death in December, 1950, was a great loss to the Institution. The idea of celebrating the Jubilee of the work of the B.S.I. was largely originated by Percy Good, and it is, indeed, unfortunate that his death should have occurred when he was looking forward to these celebrations, and the retirement he had hoped to enjoy watching the progress of the Institution he had served for so long.

British Standards Year Book 1951. Price 7/6.

The 1951 Year Book contains an up-to-date record of the work of the B.S.I. It lists the British Standards current

at December 30, 1950, giving a brief description of each. The volume also includes the membership of the B.S.I. main committees, and a subject index to the list of British Standards.

● **The Report of the Central Land Board 1950-51.** Published by H.M.S.O., York House, Kingsway, W.C.2. Price 9d.

In accordance with Section 2 (7) of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, this report, covering financial year 1950-51, was presented to Parliament and has been reprinted by order of the House of Commons. The report shows that at the end of the year the number of determinations of development value issued by the Board was 197,214 out of a total number of claims requiring to be valued of about 825,000. The Board received £3,159,492 in development charges in 14,992 cases compared with £2,084,616 in 16,511 cases during the previous year. The larger average per case was due mainly to a few large individual payments, two industrial projects, for instance, accounting for over a quarter of a million pounds.

● **Government Publications Sectional List No. 3.** Issued by H.M.S.O., York House, Kingsway, W.C.2.

This list contains all the publications of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research now in print, and also the titles of those issued since October 1, 1938, which are now out of print. The latter publications are included for the use of those who may be asked to indicate sources of information not fully covered by the publications available, and reference copies are available in a number of National Libraries. The published works of the Building Research Institution are, of course, included in this sectional list, which has been revised up to February 28, 1951.

● **Timber Leaflets.** Issued by Forestry Products, Research Laboratory of the D.S.I.R. Free.

These leaflets have been issued in order to make available the results of investigation at the Forestry Products Research Laboratory, on the properties of many of the tropical timbers now coming into this country. The various timbers are described, giving their various trade names and place of origin. A description of the type of tree, together with a description of the timber, including its seasoning properties, weight, bending properties, mechanical properties, natural durability, preservative treatment, working properties and recommended uses.

In view of the considerable quantity of tropical timber now available free of licence, and the fact that the Architect generally knows very little about the origin or behaviour of these timbers, the Forestry Products Research Laboratory's leaflets will be found to be of considerable use. It is to be hoped that when the research is complete they will be published in a bound or loose-leaf volume, and for the time being it would be more convenient if sheets were of standard size to facilitate filing, instead of the variety of sizes in which they appear at the moment.

● **Building Research Station, Digest Nos. 32 and 33.** Issued by the Building Research Station, Garston, Watford, Herts. Price 2d. each.

No. 32. Concrete made with lightweight aggregate.

B.R.S. Digest Nos. 28 and 29 reviewed in the *A. & B.N.* Information Digest of May 25, 1951, dealt with aerated concrete are related to this Digest, which deals with lightweight concrete using a lightweight aggregate instead of the normal stone or ballast. The Digest gives details of the various lightweight aggregates generally available, the properties of the resulting concrete and their method of use. A table is included giving properties of concrete made with lightweight aggregates. This Digest is of considerable interest, as the advantages of the use of lightweight aggregates for building lie not only in the reduced weight of the concrete but in the resulting improved thermal insulation properties. On the other hand, their light weight is a disadvantage in respect of insulation against sound. It is often thought that the use of lightweight aggregate is merely a direct replacement of normal aggregate and the properties of the resulting concrete are similar regardless of the type of aggregate used. As the Digest points out, however, the type of aggregate does result in important differences in the properties of the concrete. The qualities required of lightweight concrete and the use to which it is put must be taken into account when selecting an appropriate aggregate, and the composition of the mix.

No. 33. The Causes of dampness in Buildings.

Most Architects will, at some time or other, have been concerned with dampness in buildings, and this Digest has been prepared to help those who are dealing with the investigation of such problems. As the foreword makes clear, it does not cover the prevention or cure, but discusses the characteristic effects of dampness and how from the study of these, causes may be traced. Previous Digests have described some curative methods and others will form the subject of a later publication in this series.

Much of the deterioration inside buildings is caused by damp conditions, and although these defects are well known, in many cases the fact that moisture is involved is not always realized. A table included in the Digest summarizes the main effects of dampness on the inside of buildings.

In most cases no treatment of the visible defects will be successful until the source of moisture has been traced and removed. A true diagnosis usually calls for a thorough examination of the building concerned, and this publication will be of considerable help both in making an examination and deciding upon the cause of the visible defects discovered.

● **Utilization of Space.** Issued by United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. Industry and Materials Committee. Housing Sub-committee. Geneva.

At the fifth session, in March, 1951, of the Housing Sub-Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe, it was decided that a revised report should be made available to the Governments for distribution within their countries at their discretion.

This publication is a comparative study of the utilization of space in current types of dwellings in 14 European Countries [1948/49] prepared by Maurice B. Blackshaw (United Kingdom) as the result of this decision. The report presents plans of dwelling types of recent construction with calculation of gross and net areas, and areas used for various purposes, based on the information submitted by the Governments of the 14 European Countries. Housing requirements reflected in the plans are found to differ little, and it is of interest to note that the highest space allocations can be found in the examples from Great Britain. The report suggests various ways of improving the utilization of space by such means as the Study Bedroom and more open planning. To reduce costs it is suggested that a study should be made of the possibility of omitting basements in countries where these are common, reducing ceiling heights, grouping houses in pairs or terraces, standardizing common components, simplifying staircases and devoting particular attention to the quality of design.

● **London County Council Publications.** Published by L.C.C County Hall, Westminster, S.W.1.

Floodlight 1951-52. Price 9d.

Since 1848, when the Metropolitan Evening Classes for Young Men were established, the evening class has been a feature of London's education. The 1951-52 edition of Floodlight is a guide to further education and is intended to show in detail, the extent of the further educational facilities available under the guidance of the L.C.C. The list of evening and part-time day classes is vast and covers some 500 subjects ranging from accountancy to zoology and including almost every subject imaginable. The variety of subjects is quite amazing and it is interesting to learn, for example, that one can study Barge Building at Poplar Technical College, Lip Reading at Kingsway General Institute or attend special classes for Stammerers at the same place. The languages listed range from French to Arabic and Russian and almost every trade and profession is catered for. The session for evening classes is from September to June and these classes generally start enrolling on September 17. In addition

to the list of subjects, the booklet gives details of scholarships and other benefits available. A complete list of Polytechnics, Colleges and Institutes and details of fees for both day vocational courses and evening classes, is included.

Hammersmith School of Building. Prospectus 1951-52. Free.

The Hammersmith School of Building is a listed school of the R.I.B.A. and has a five year full time day course in Architecture, and a seven year evening course of study both leading up to the appropriate R.I.B.A. examinations. The Head of the School of Architecture is F. G. Gooding, F.R.I.B.A. and the new session commenced on September 6, 1951.

South-East London Technical College Prospectus No. 1. 1951-52. Free.

This Prospectus covers the activities of the building department. Principal, F. H. Reid, B.Sc. The school caters for students generally concerned with the building and allied trades. There is no Architectural Department. The new session for day course commenced on September 3 and part-time classes commenced on September 24.

Facts and Figures 1951. Price 6d.

This hand-book published by the London County Council gives a series of interesting facts and figures about the service of the Council to Londoners. The contents cover the whole of the major activities of the L.C.C. from the care of Deprived Children to Architecture and Town-planning. The booklet is well presented and contains several pages of excellent photographs illustrating the various aspects of the Council's work.

● **The City of Leicester.** Published by the City of Leicester, Publications Dept., Information Bureau, 29 Horsefair Street, Leicester. Price 1/6.

This short guide to the City of Leicester by Jack Simmons, introduces readers to Leicester giving its history, notes on brick buildings in the City [as most of the city is built of brick], the old town and the modern city and its suburbs. The booklet is well written and generously illustrated with good photographs and several useful maps. The appendix to the book gives general information about the various facilities for recreation and entertainment, etc., in the city, with a list of hotels, cafes and restaurants and motor garages.

VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS PUBLICATIONS

● **Homes for Old People.** Issued by the National Corporation for the Care of Old People, 33 Doughty Street, W.C.1. Terminus 5288. Free.

This booklet has been prepared by the National Corporation for the Care of Old People, to assist committees and their advisers who are envisaging the purchase of property for adaptation to old people's homes. The Corporation feels that it can offer considerable help in this matter, as in many cases the sponsors of such schemes apply to the Corporation for grant aid. It is felt early consultation would, in fact, result in a scheme which the Corporation can more readily assist. The booklet does not attempt to supersede professional advice but makes suggestions concerning the choice of premises for adaptation, discusses the local problems involved and deals with the type of accommodation most suitable for both the aged residents and the staff who will look after them. A considerable amount of useful information is included in the 16 pages of text and many of the suggestions made should be of considerable help to the committees concerned with projects for old people's homes, who do not always realize the difficulties in this type of work nor appreciate the handicaps suffered by many of the residents. This booklet can be strongly recommended to both Architects and the committees concerned with such schemes.

● **Bulletin No. 10 August 1951.** Issued by the Women's Advisory Council on Solid Fuel, 18 South Molton Street, W.1. Price 6d.

Since the publication of this Council's Bulletin No. 9 which deals with safety factors in the design of solid fuel appliances, the Technical Sub-Committee has concentrated on the problem of guarding the open coal fire. This Bulletin is in the form of a report on the survey carried out by the Council's Regional Organizers between January and April, 1951, covering nearly 1,000 homes in all parts of the country. The conclusion reached by the Council as a result of this survey, is that the danger of open fires to young children is not sufficiently realized, but that the problem of the unguarded open coal fire is one which can be ultimately solved provided those concerned maintain the necessary interest. The Bulletin concludes by describing two new types of fire guards, one design by Mrs. Darcy Braddell and the other by Miss Leigh and also refers to a new method of attaching fire guards to tiled fire surrounds developed by Messrs. Board & Co., Ltd.

MISCELLANEOUS

● **Graforel.** Issued by London Industrial Art Ltd., 33 Jubilee Place, London, S.W.1. Flaxman 6816. Free.

On many occasions the Architect and Exhibition Designer is called upon to cope with the problem of captioning and lettering which has only been decided at the last minute. The Graforel relief lettering which is described in this leaflet will undoubtedly be welcomed by designers in such a position. The system described and illustrated by a sample on the front page consists of relief lettering cut out of sheet cork which can be stuck to any surface, wood, paper, metal or glass, etc., using liquid glue or special adhesive in the case of glass and metal, and then painted to the desired colour. The lettering up to and including 50mm in height, is supplied in boxes containing standard sets of 300 assorted letters and figures, or in moisture proof bags of 10 and 25 letters per type and size. The range of stock types and sizes appears to be reasonably extensive and special types, sizes and trade marks can be cut to order. This appears to be a simple, but extremely useful device which will be of great assistance to those principally concerned with exhibition designing and should assist in the maintenance of a good standard of lettering.

● **Aerial Photographs.** Issued by Aero-Films Ltd., 29 Old Bond Street, W.1. Regent 5211. Free.

This is the latest brochure issued by Aero-Films, Ltd., and describes their activities in air photographic work. The booklet, which contains details of the various applications of aerial photography, and shows examples of Messrs. Aero-Films work in the preparation of air surveys, photo maps, and dioramas as well as normal air photos of either completed buildings or buildings in course of construction.

Pattern brickwork to entrance front of Aarhus University, Jutland. Architects : C. F. Moller & Kay Fisker. Photo : D. A. Vincent.

News of the BUILDING INDUSTRY

THE FIRST REVISION of Part 1 of B.S.644, "Wood windows and casement doors" is now published under the title "Wood casement windows." The revision gives details of the standard types and sizes (which have been simplified from the previous edition) and the constructional requirements for casement windows redesigned for greater strength and increased durability. The types of windows covered are those without glazing bars, those with horizontal or lay bars only, and those using both horizontal and vertical glazing bars. The figures show the range of standard casement windows, vertical and horizontal sections with alternative sills, overall dimensions and angle mullions to enable a range of bay windows to be built up from standard window units. Tables provide overall dimensions and daylight areas of windows with and without glazing bars.

*

THE LONDON SESSIONAL MEETING of the Royal Sanitary Institute takes place on Wednesday, October 10, at 2.30 p.m., at the Institute. A paper on "Some Preliminary Experiments in the Filling of Waterlogged Pits with Refuse," will be read by A. S. Knolles, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Twickenham.

*

APPLICATIONS for import licences for plywood, laminboard, blockboard and battenboard from countries, other than Finland, to which the Open General Licence does not apply, should in future be addressed to the Board of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Romney House, Tufton Street, London, S.W.1, and not to the Timber Control, Lacon House, as hitherto.

*

THE DEATH occurred on September 18, of Sir Henry T. Holloway, F.I.O.B., the Chairman and Managing Director of Holloway Brothers (London), Limited.

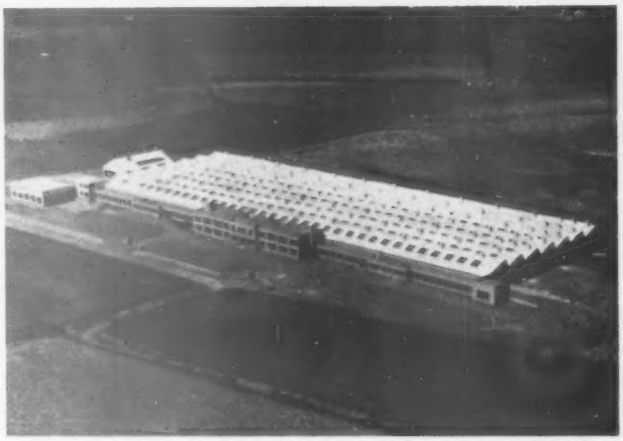
Sir Henry was elected to the Council of the L.M.B.A. in 1914 and became President of the Association in 1924; he was also President of the Institute of Builders in 1928, of the Builders Benevolent Institution in 1930, of the Builders Clerks Benevolent Institution 1918-20 and of the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors 1940-46. He received the honour of Knighthood in 1945 for his services to the Industry during the war.

*

BRADFORD HOUSING SUB-COMMITTEE has framed a resolution for submission to the Public Works Committee recommending that 100 sites for garages on Corporation housing estates should be prepared at an estimated cost of £15 per site. The resolution follows a report by Mr. S. G. Wardley, Bradford City Engineer and Surveyor, that there is an increasing demand for garage sites on the estates and that suitable sites can be provided.

*

NORTHERN ALUMINIUM COMPANY, LTD., announce that from October 1 the address of their Head Office and London Area Sales Office is Bush House, Aldwych, London, W.C.2. Telephone No.: Temple Bar 8430. Telegrams: Noraluco Estrand London.



The Minister of Supply, Mr. George Strauss, M.P., recently opened this new factory near Wishaw, Lanarkshire, for Smith's English Clocks Ltd. The new factory will, at peak production, produce 90,000 alarm clocks a week, enough to supply the British market and 2,000,000 for export per annum. It was laid out from a model planned after a team of experts had made a careful study of flow production in the U.S.A. The Architect for the factory is L. W. Hutson, F.R.I.B.A., of Cullen, Lockhead and Brown.

*

THE LORD MAYOR, Alderman Sir Denys Lowson, Bart., will be accompanied by the Lady Mayoress when he goes to the luncheon which the L.M.B.A. is giving in his honour in the Savoy Hotel on October 11.

Among the guests, in addition to the Sheriffs, the City Chamberlain and the City Marshall, will be the Chairmen of the nine Worshipful Companies connected with building, the Permanent Secretaries of the Ministries of Works, Local Government and Planning, and Labour, and the Presidents of the R.I.B.A., R.I.C.S., A.A., Institute of Builders, and the National Federation of Building Trades Employers and of the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors.

Owing to the General Election, the Minister of Works, Mr. George Brown, has found it impossible to attend. He will be represented by the Parliamentary Secretary, Lord Morrison.

*

THE MANCHESTER BRANCH of the Federation of Master Builders are arranging a showing of films of interest to the building industry at the Grand Hotel, Manchester, at 7 p.m., on October 9. Invitations to the film show are not being confined to the membership to the Federation's Branch in Manchester but all members of the industry are invited to get into touch with the secretary of the Manchester Branch, Mr. Gordon Fisher, whose address and telephone number are: Albany Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester, 21, Chorlton 1063, 2626.

THE COUNCIL FOR CODES OF PRACTICE have now issued in final form Sub-Code 113.102 "Arc Welded Construction." It is intended at some future date to amalgamate this Sub-Code with the Head Code 113 "The Structural Use of Steel in Buildings"; the present document has, however, been arranged to be as far as possible complete in itself.

The Code gives recommendations for the design, fabrication and erection of metal arc welded structural steelwork used in any part of a building (excluding the welding of steel tubes which will be dealt with in Sub-Code 113.201, in preparation). It includes recommendations for the design of welded joints and also for the design of connections, plate girders, compression members and staunchion bases embodying arc welded construction. Tables give details of throat thickness of fillet welds with reference to the angle between fusion faces, size of single-run fillet welds and thickness of the flange of a plate girder.

*

AMONG THE FIRST SECTIONS of the final report on the Census of Production for 1948, which are on sale from October 2, is the following: Roofing felts (1s 6d). Further trade reports will be published at short intervals, and announcements will be made as they become ready for publication.

*

MR. J. T. A. BROOKS, F.R.I.C.S., has been appointed Chief Quantity Surveyor, Ministry of Works, in succession to the late Mr. C. A. Morrison, C.B.E.

Mr. Brooks has been with the Ministry for more than 30 years. For the last two years he has been Assistant Chief Quantity Surveyor.

GOOD, BAD OR INDIFFERENT?

No. 52.—By A. FOREMAN

Quality of Walls

I WAS recently involved in a discussion with a number of builders concerning the quality of walls for normal two-storey houses. It started when one of the builders suggested that Building bye-laws ought to lay down thermal insulation requirements as well as structural requirements for external walls. He said he thought that since the use of cavity walls of bricks, or bricks and blocks, had become so common there was no justification in ever returning to types of external walls which would not give a "U" value at least equal to a normal 11in brick wall. He even went so far as to suggest that a higher "U" value than that of the 11in brick wall was desirable, as this could be attained so easily by the use of inner skins of material such as lightweight concrete blocks without a noticeable change in cost.

I do not imagine that there are now many people responsible for the design of houses who are not fully aware of what "U" values mean and what the ordinary materials in everyday use for walls and floors provide in this respect. The speaker supported his plea for such an addition to the bye-laws by pointing out that the cost of fuel has become so enormous that anything which the house builder can do to aid the occupier is likely to be well worth while, unless very wild methods of insulation are adopted. He thought not only was this in the interests of the occupier but also of the nation as a whole since fuel seems to be becoming a greater national crisis every day.

One or two of the other builders present said they thought that to include a provision of this sort in bye-laws would be absurd as it prevented the erection of houses at minimum cost, which was what most people wanted even if it was more costly to live in them over a period of years. They seemed to view the provision of cheap houses as more important than provision of good houses. In regard to walls they argued that 9in walls had been widely used until 1939 for the external walls of houses, especially in the London area, and these had been perfectly satisfactory especially when rendered, as was usual, as rendering permitted of the use of the cheapest bricks which were not otherwise satisfactory in appearance.

Most of those present were, however, in violent disagreement with these views as they thought that the days of absolute minimum quality, disregarding the comfort and the pockets of the future occupiers, should never return again and it was undesirable to return to a lower quality of house building than that advocated for local authority building in the "Housing Manual." They argued that 9in walls, other than in exceptionally sheltered positions, were seldom satisfactory from the point of view of keeping out the weather, even when rendered, as rendering, unless very carefully carried out, was apt in itself to be a source of trouble. They felt that since cavity walls had become so common and the building trade in general was quite used to their construction, there was no justification in a return to the solid walls. Several of those present were of the opinion that cavity wall construction using cheap types of facing bricks was, in fact, less costly than rendered solid 9in walls; nearly everyone present cited cases of damp penetration where the solid construction had been used and agreed that if damp troubles started in this sort of construction it was very hard and costly to cure.

I have, as readers may remember from an article in this series, No. 5 of August 4, 1950, advocated cavity construction and the use of lightweight concrete blocks for inner skins so I was very pleased to hear strong expressions of opinion in favour of what I have advocated. I was rather appalled to think that well-known house builders should advocate a return to forms of wall construction which are now generally agreed as likely to be unsatisfactory. If there are to be cheaper houses, and we certainly all want to see them, it should be achieved in other ways than at the expense of the discomfort of the occupiers during the long time which the new houses are likely to remain in occupation.

I, too, would like to see some requirements in bye-laws, and I do not think they would cause any hardship to purchasers or occupiers, which would set a minimum level of thermal insulation. New methods of construction should be encouraged in the form of what are now termed "alternative methods," but these alternatives might so easily be much worse than even those traditional methods that I want to see abandoned if no level is set down in bye-laws. I have few fears that such a requirement would in fact increase building costs beyond those which are necessary to ensure proper protection against weather penetration.

What has been said in relation to walls is equally important for ground floors and for top-floor ceilings. Too many pre-war houses, especially round London, provided inadequate ground floor insulation; one of the causes was the wide use of joist and boarded floor construction in which the boards were plain edged instead of being tongued and grooved. As for top floor ceiling protection or protection of plumbing in roof spaces little enough was provided in the majority of pre-war houses as occupiers well know to their cost; in consequence it is highly desirable that bye-laws set down some minimum standard as a protection of the occupier, who is so often the purchaser and who will, in time, have to spend much more than the necessary protection would have cost as an initial expenditure. The bye-laws should be a protection for those who cannot be expected to have sufficient technical knowledge to judge what are the minimum requirements to provide houses having reasonable conditions for health and comfort.

READY-MIXED CONCRETE

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American practice in the use of ready-mixed, or transit-mixed, concrete was one of the subjects surveyed by the British Building Productivity Team which visited the United States for the Anglo-American Council on Productivity. The Team recommended in its Report that the technical possibilities of using this material in major centres in this country should be investigated.

Experience with ready-mixed concrete is not very extensive in Great Britain but there are at least five producing firms and a British Standard Specification is being prepared. The Ministry of Works has recently asked for the views of producers and users on the advantages and disadvantages of ready-mixed compared with site-mixed concrete and the following notes are based on information given in over sixty replies.

Ready-mixed concrete is prepared to any desired specification. The dry materials are first mixed at central stations equipped with efficient weigh-batching plant and manned by experienced staff. They are then transported to the site in mixers mounted on special trucks and the exact amount of water needed is added during transit. It is generally agreed that the product is of higher and more uniform quality than is normally attained by site-mixing except on large jobs where similar equipment is installed and quality control is of a high order. Producers usually guarantee the quality of their product and users who have carried out tests confirm that the guaranteed standard is well maintained.

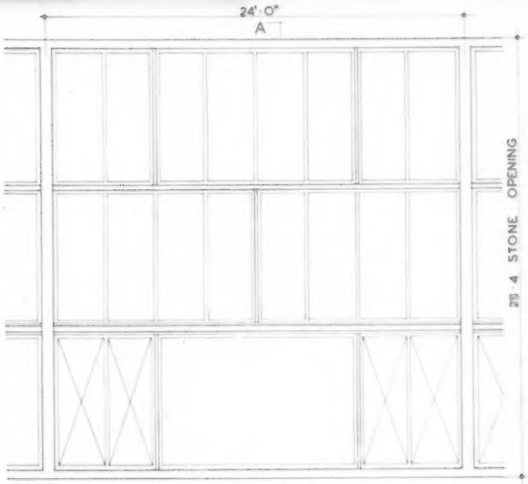
The use of ready-mixed concrete gives scope for a considerable saving of labour on site operations, an important feature in the conditions prevailing to-day. No mixing team is required on the site and if arrangements are made to discharge trucks direct into framework, labour for spreading can also be reduced. The increased speed in concreting may save time on the whole job.

Ready-mixed concrete offers many advantages on congested sites and is particularly valuable for maintenance work and alterations in factories where the occupation of floor space can cause serious production delays. No space is required for a mixer or for dumps of material, no shelter is needed for cement stocks and a special water supply is unnecessary.

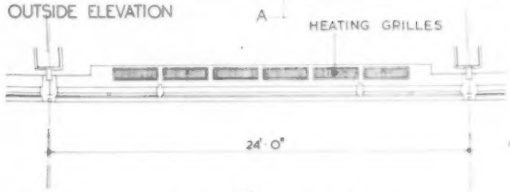
By its use it is possible to escape some of the difficulties that beset concreting in winter and to avoid many of the delays to which site mixing is subject in adverse or unreliable weather.

When using ready-mixed concrete it is more than ever important to plan the progress of work very carefully. Delay in discharging trucks increases the cost of delivery and if too slow a delivery rate is arranged placing may be held up causing extra cost on the site. The concrete is usually delivered in loads of 2 to 3 cubic yards. The whole load must be placed promptly or there may be a risk of premature setting.

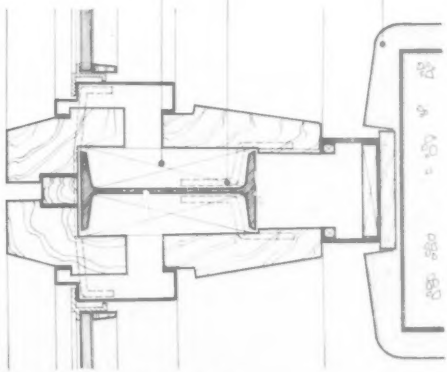
Suppliers have achieved a reputation for making deliveries to time but it may be very difficult to maintain scheduled deliveries to sites in congested city areas. A



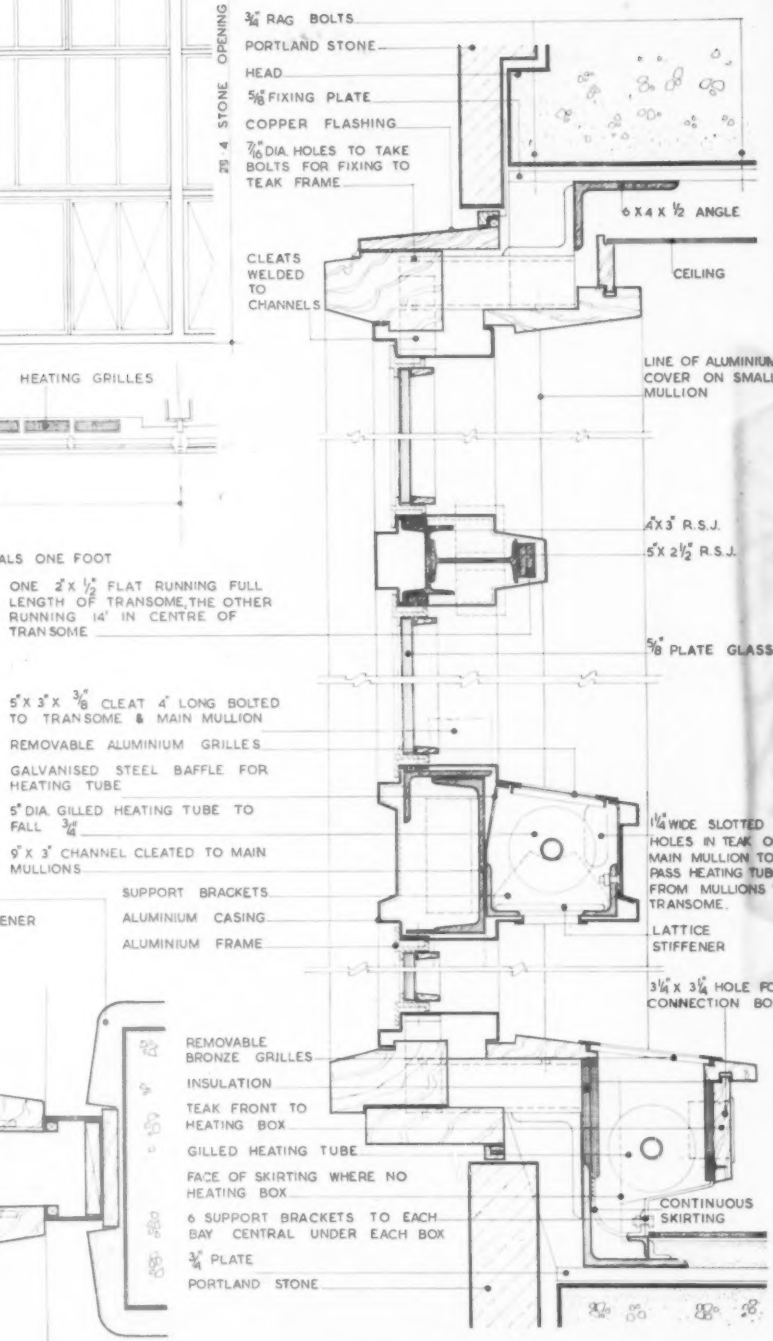
OUTSIDE ELEVATION



PLAN SCALE. 1/8" EQUALS ONE FOOT

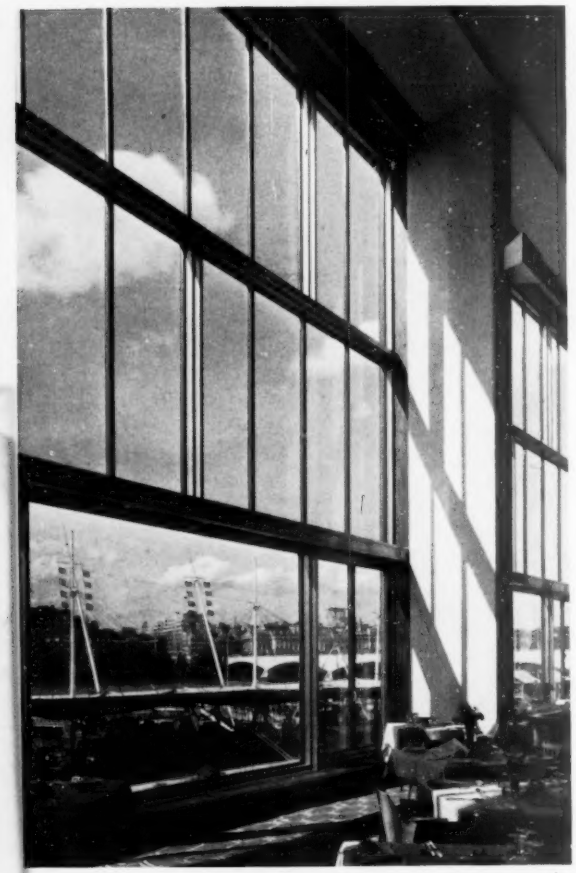


PLAN OF MAIN MULLION


3/4" RAG BOLTS
PORTLAND STONE
HEAD
5/16" FIXING PLATE
COPPER FLASHING
7/16" DIA. HOLES TO TAKE BOLTS FOR FIXING TO TEAK FRAME
6 X 4 X 1/2 ANGLE
CLEATS WELDED TO CHANNELS
CEILING
LINE OF ALUMINIUM COVER ON SMALL MULLION
4"X 3" R.S.J.
5"X 2 1/2" R.S.J.
ONE 2" X 1/2" FLAT RUNNING FULL LENGTH OF TRANSOME, THE OTHER RUNNING 14' IN CENTRE OF TRANSOME
5/8" PLATE GLASS
5" X 3" X 3/8" CLEAT 4" LONG BOLTED TO TRANSOME & MAIN MULLION
REMOVABLE ALUMINIUM GRILLES
GALVANISED STEEL BAFFLE FOR HEATING TUBE
5" DIA. GILLED HEATING TUBE TO FALL 3/4"
9" X 3" CHANNEL CLEATED TO MAIN MULLIONS
1 1/4" WIDE SLOTTED HOLES IN TEAK ON MAIN MULLION TO PASS HEATING TUBES FROM MULLIONS TO TRANSOME.
PLASTER FACING TO COLUMN
3" X 3/8" STRAP FOR LATTICE STIFFENER
ROUGH GROUNDS
SUPPORT BRACKETS
ALUMINIUM CASING
ALUMINIUM FRAME
LATTICE STIFFENER
3 1/4" X 3 1/4" HOLE FOR CONNECTION BOX
REMOVABLE BRONZE GRILLES
INSULATION
TEAK FRONT TO HEATING BOX
GILLED HEATING TUBE
FACE OF SKIRTING WHERE NO HEATING BOX
6 SUPPORT BRACKETS TO EACH BAY CENTRAL UNDER EACH BOX
3/4" PLATE
PORTLAND STONE
CONTINUOUS SKIRTING

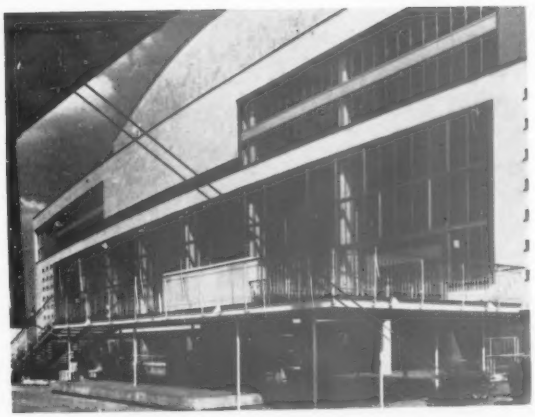
SECTION A-A SCALE. 1/8TH FULL SIZE

RESTAURANT WINDOW ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL. LONDON. • ROBERT. H. MATTHEW & J.L. MARTIN

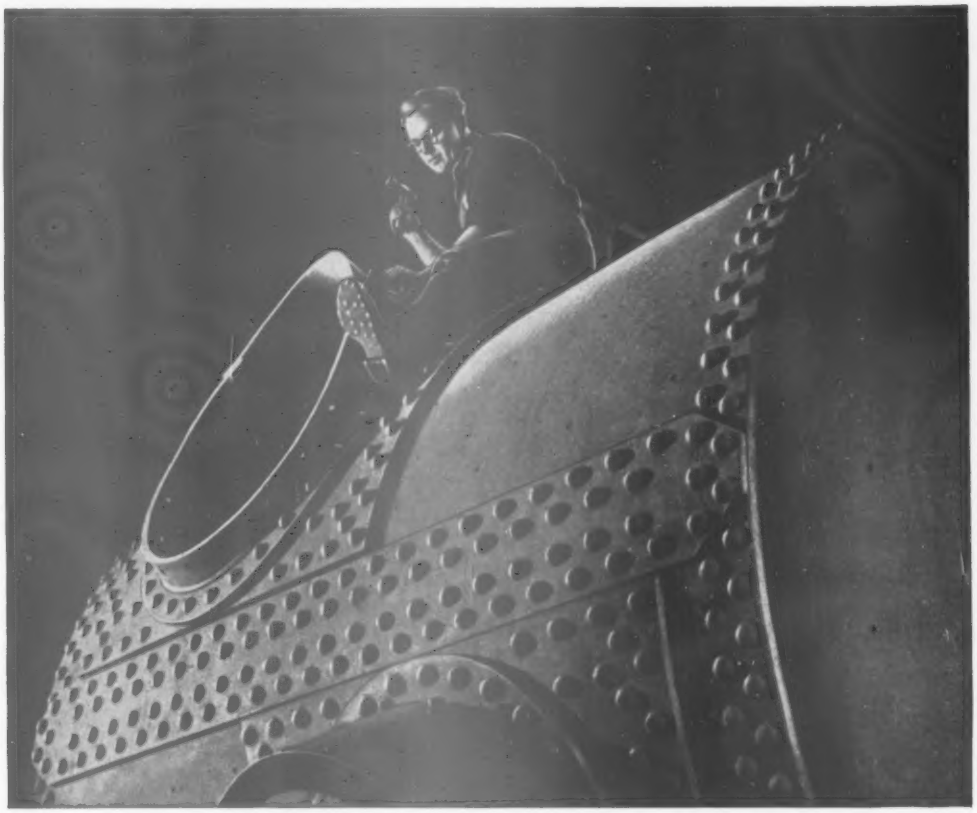


RESTAURANT
WINDOW: R.F.H.

ARCHITECTS: ROBERT H.
MATTHEW & J. L. MARTIN



On the job for 158 years



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The Board Room, Messrs. Abbot Duplicate Book Co. Ltd., Kings Langley, the well-known printers, showing the furniture recently designed and supplied by Heal's Contracts Ltd. The table is in two parts and is of elm and cherry-mahogany with bleached mahogany mouldings on the legs. The chairs are covered in blue hide and the rust Wilton carpet has a blue spot design. The curtains are of pale blue brocade with wooden pelmets.

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minor difficulty is sometimes found on small jobs in ensuring that the last load is delivered in time to complete spreading before the normal finishing hour.

Delivery trucks require a firm road right up to the discharge point. If access to the site is poor it may not be possible to discharge direct into the formwork and extra handling and spreading costs will reduce the advantage of using the material.

The quality of ready-mixed concrete is generally high but its reliability could be affected by inaccurate control of mixing water during transit. This, however, should not happen with experienced truck drivers.

There is also a risk of ready-mixed concrete being spoiled on site by the addition of water to make it more workable. It is important to place the concrete as soon as it is delivered without altering its condition in any way.

Opinions do not differ greatly on the technical issues, but there is less general agreement in the field of economics due to the number of factors involved. The basis for comparison is in itself a difficulty. The cost of site-mixed concrete varies with the size of the job, weather conditions and details of organization, while the cost of ready-mixed concrete depends greatly on the distance travelled and the extent to which the material can be discharged straight into position from the truck.

On the basis of these opinions, ready-mixed concrete is likely to be dearer on many jobs, estimates of the difference varying from 5s to 8s a cubic yard, but the advantages of using it can offset its actual cost. As might be expected, in small quantities required intermittently within ten miles of a loading station, it is cheaper.

Views given to the Ministry of Works indicate that builders are likely to find it worthwhile to use ready-mixed concrete in any of the following circumstances:—

(1) If it is essential to save time and arrangements can be made for rapid placing.
(2) Where the site is congested or if occupation of floor space may hold up other important work.
(3) When it is important to avoid delays due to adverse weather conditions.

Travelling distance from a loading station should generally be less than 20 miles but in some cases longer distances can usefully be considered.

DESIGN OF THE FACTORY

In view of the defence programme factory planning in likely to become a subject of increasing interest to the architect. The last war was responsible for many advances in techniques of planning and construction and the importance of good circulations and good working conditions are now better appreciated. There is still much to be learnt and some of the problems were discussed at a technical session of the B.R.S. Congress held at the R.I.B.A. on Tuesday, September 18.

The three papers around which discussion took place were "Planning of the Factory" by F. A. Fairbrother, Chief Architect of Albert Kahn Associated Architects and Engineers, Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A., "An Introduction to the Factors Influencing the Design of Industrial Buildings" by Edward D. Mills, F.R.I.B.A., and "Working Conditions in Factories" by G. P. Barnett, H.M. Chief Inspector of Factories, London. These papers are printed in full in the special volumes prepared for Congress Members. At the meeting the papers were summarized by their authors* and were then open to discussion. Following are points from the summaries and discussion.

** Note: Mr. Fairbrother's paper was summarized by Mr. Howard Robertson.*

The functions of the industrial architect as summarized by Mr. Fairbrother are:—

1. Assisting in selecting a suitable site.
2. Efficient planning for flow of material and economic manufacturing processes.
3. Study of transportation facilities.
4. Provision for personnel requirements and administrative facilities.
5. Architectural design.

Commenting on this paper, Mr. Howard Robertson stressed the need for eliminating "clutter" in design, suggested that there might sometimes be more liberality in height and expressed disappointment at the standards of internal design.

Mr. Fairbrother's paper mentioned the efficient planning for flow of materials as, perhaps, most important of those listed. Once the site has been selected, "We find," he says, "that the architect may offer very valuable aid. We believe that the architectural (plus building) organization, which claims to be able to move in on the owner and tell him how to manufacture his product is wrong. On the other hand, we know that any owner appreciates the attitude of the architect who enters the study of his subject with an engineering mind; and because of the facility which comes from practice in solving problems of plan and space may . . . come up with surprisingly simple and practical suggestions."

Stressing the need for planning for future extension, Mr. Fairbrother said that "expansion for production can be made more easily in one-storey than in multi-storey buildings . . . especially when the roof framing is arranged with wide column spacing."

Of provision for personnel the author states that in a large building on one floor, devoted to straight line production, it is often difficult to afford space for locker and toilet rooms. In such cases these rooms have been provided on a mezzanine level above conveyor and assembly lines. In such positions entrances may be from outside bridges. Where overhead toilets and their approaches would interfere with conveyors or cranes they have been successfully planned below ground.

Of construction Mr. Fairbrother says: "We in the United States have not used pre-stressed steel in reinforced concrete to the same extent that has been done in England. . . . The high cost of labour and forms is responsible for our part in using this advance in technique."

Mr. Edward Mills laid down the requirements of a well-designed factory estate which should include (1) multi-storey flatted factory where small firms can rent expansible space; (2) complete buildings, expansible for larger firms; and (3) for firms needing several buildings of different types, units located in positions which will allow proper grouping.

One of the major problems facing architects in Great Britain to-day, said Mr. Mills, was the shortage of certain essential building materials, in particular steel, aluminium, timber and cement. The construction technique used in factory building must use these scarce materials in the most economical fashion possible. Recent developments in structural technique had shown considerable savings in these materials over traditional building methods, and their use would have considerable influence on the planning and construction of factory buildings. The use of high tensile steel, welded structural steelwork, pre-stressed reinforced concrete, shell membrane reinforced concrete, and factory made standardized floor and wall units for industrial buildings had passed the experimental stage in most industrialized countries, and was already changing the shape and appearance of factory buildings. Considerable research was still needed in relation to the most economical applications of these materials and techniques, and industrialists should be encouraged to experiment in these fields with their buildings, as the work already carried out suggested that their use could materially assist in the development of more economical and efficient manufacturing units.

Mr. Mills paper dealt with the importance of realizing that the most up-to-date process to-day may, in some industries, be regarded as obsolete in five years' time.

"This is a serious problem in relation to industrial buildings," says the author, "and many industrialists have come to the conclusion that the solution is in the use of makeshift buildings, which in theory can be scrapped after a few years.

"It is assumed that such buildings are cheap to erect, and can, therefore, be written off when demolished. In practice, these makeshift buildings are expensive to erect, and because of the high cost of servicing, heating and maintenance, etc., are finally accepted as permanent but unsatisfactory substitutes for proper buildings, costing more and producing less each year, because of the low standard of amenities provided."

This problem of frequent, inevitable change, is a very real one in some industries, and modern structural techniques make two alternatives possible. The first is the construction of properly designed semi-permanent buildings with a light structural frame, and standardized wall and floor infilling panels which can be arranged in a variety of plan forms, and ultimately dismantled when their term of use has expired. Such units would be subsequently available for re-erection in

a different form to serve a different purpose, with little loss of capital value, and the possibility of expansion or contraction in size as trade conditions demand.

The second alternative is the construction of industrial structures as permanent weatherproof envelopes, housing a flexible, interchangeable and independent framework for the developing process, allowing a complete reoganization of machinery or plant, without interference with the building structure at any time. This approach to manufacturing buildings is particularly appropriate to the chemical and similar industries, where particular products or manufacturing processes may have a very short life, in contrast to an industry where the same goods are produced in the same manner year after year. Such a manufacturing building calls for an appropriate structural technique, and while internal arrangements and service must be as complete and as flexible as possible, the structure itself must be permanent, and require the minimum of maintenance.

The great problem facing the architect is of course the combination of efficiency with appearance, and on this subject Mr. Mills says:—

"Structural method and construction materials affect the appearance of the completed factory, and while in the past, æsthetics and industry have not been very closely related, it is now more widely appreciated in industry in Great Britain, that 'appearances count.'

"The policy of cleaning up the most obvious face of an industrial building by an architect, after others have done their best or worst with the planning and construction, is not a satisfactory solution to the problem. The effective and pleasing appearance of a modern factory in all its aspects must develop naturally out of efficient planning and the application of an appropriate structural technique, used with intelligence and an appreciation of both æsthetic and practical problems. Experience has proved that good architecture when applied to industrial buildings does result in increased production, healthier and more contented workers, and a higher standard of workmanship."

In Mr. Barnett's paper there is a point of particular interest to the designer, namely: "The position of sanitary, washing and cloakroom accommodation requires careful thought. Over and over again, Inspectors have found that washing and cloakroom accommodation, however well equipped, has gone unused if it was too far from the place of work. The ordinary worker will not avail himself of facilities if they involve extra time and effort at the end of the day, or expose his clothes and belongings to risk of theft. It is of no use inveighing against this attitude. The only way is to include it as one of the factors to be reckoned with in planning. Often, small cloakrooms and lavatories adjoining each workshop are the best solution. Similarly, enormous canteens and dining halls have a depressing effect and discourage customers."

Quite one of the most important factors in industrial design, however, was mentioned first by Mr. Hope Bagenal and followed up by Mr. Allen, of the B.R.S.

Mr. Bagenal made a plea for planning to take into account the relationship of noisy areas to adjoining housing development, with particular attention to areas where night shifts were worked. Mr. Bagenal pointed out that an "incentive" (*our word*) to more careful planning might be the fact that injunction for noise nuisance may now be brought.

Mr. Allen spoke of noise tests which are now under way at the B.R.S. But, he said, the noise problem bristled with difficulties. Tests carried out in a weaving factory had shown, for instance, that attempts to screen between machines were not entirely satisfactory. Some noise treatments were difficult to justify economically.

Mr. Allen said that concrete structures, for instance, retained noise adequately, but by so doing achieved a noise level within certain buildings comparable to that experienced at thirty feet from the tail end of a jet plane.

Machinery manufacturers, said Mr. Allen, have a big responsibility.

These papers and the discussion were amongst the most interesting in the congress, since they showed clearly that in the architects' changing world there is tremendous scope for increasing liaison between client, architect, engineer and scientist in producing those buildings upon which the economic structure of the country and the welfare of the workers so largely depends.

TIMBER REVIEW

Choice for the architect and builder is improving weekly on the softwood market as increasing imports reach the timber yards. Already many firms are looking for extra space, and by the end of the year the stocks for sale will be at least three times greater than those available last year, even after making allowance for the considerable volume of softwood being placed in the national stock for an emergency reserve.

Certain specifications may remain difficult. For example, Douglas fir clears, especially in good thicknesses, are not likely to be plentiful, for much of this material is going into the Government stock. Good joinery qualities are in heavy demand, and high-grade redwood is not always easy to find. In some areas present troubles with scaffold boards are likely to remain, though alternative species can be used. On the other hand, carcassing timbers are already plentiful and likely to become more abundant in the next few months.

The most plentiful softwoods now generally available in the merchants' yards are Canadian hemlock and Douglas fir in the lower grades, Swedish and Finnish redwood and whitewood, Yugoslav whitewood and a fair quantity of Russian timber.

Official policy on release of softwood for consumption remains the same, though licences are more readily granted when other scarce materials are not involved in the building job. There is every prospect that softwood consumption in October will rise to well over 90,000 standards as a result of greater freedom by licensing officers. In several areas it has been made clear that softwood licences will not be refused for any reasonable job. No major change in licensing regulations can be expected until after the General Election.

On price it can be said that careful buying makes a big difference. Many firms are selling at replacement cost, which reflects the present high price of softwood in the world softwood market, generally at £85 a standard f.o.b. as a fair average. However, with large incoming stocks, and softwood at high prices, some firms who bought early this year and at the close of last year, when prices were at least £10 a standard lower, are now ready to put these purchases on the market at lower prices, both to obtain space in their yards and to bring in finance to meet the new bills. The competitive spirit in the softwood trade is now sufficiently well developed for most builders to be able to reject all offers of carcassing timbers at replacement values; a little search will find the better bargains.

Hardwood stocks are reasonable but the market is unsettled. Prospects of softwood relaxation have kept some hardwood importers out of the market, so that, although hardwood prices are extremely high, there has nevertheless been a small slump in some species, particularly obeche. This has arisen because West African producers, trying to make the most of the good market in Britain for hardwoods, especially the "light" hardwoods which are sold without licence as substitutes for softwood, have been sending parcels to Britain without first getting a buyer. These timbers have lately been sold much below the market price.

Plywood stocks are improving in most areas, but the off-ration plywood remains costly, being generally about 50 per cent higher in price than the licensed plywood. Some plywoods—Swedish and French—are not plentiful. Importers can now buy without limit from those countries open to the trade, and some improvement in imports is expected. Prices are steady, but there is a chance they may fall within a few months.

In the wallboard market news has been received that Scandinavian manufacturers will maintain the present selling prices for the first three months of next year. Some British wallboard importers have bought more than they need, and there are offers in circulation below the general price level.

M.O.W. LECTURES

OCTOBER 9

HEREFORD at 7.15 p.m. "NEW TIMBERS AND THEIR USES," by R. P. Woods, Chief Scientific Officer, Timber Development Association. At College of Further Education, Newtown Road.

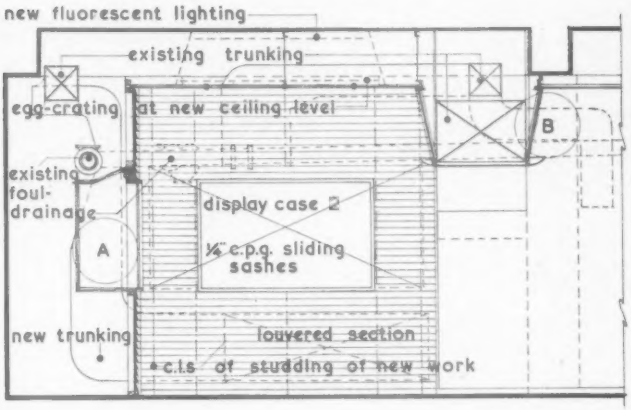
OCTOBER 10

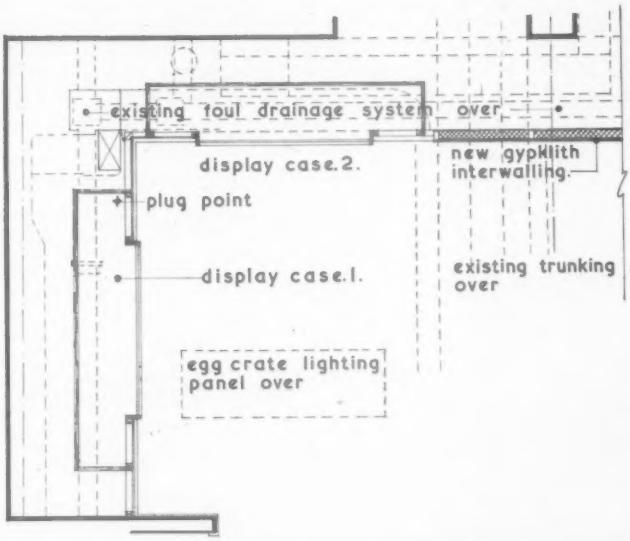
SUNDERLAND at 7 p.m. "PRESTRESSED CONCRETE," by O. J. Masterman, of Building Research Station, at the Technical College, The Green.

OCTOBER 11

STOKE-ON-TRENT at 6.30 p.m. "THE R.I.B.A. FORM OF CONTRACT," by C. Stanbury Madeley, A.R.I.B.A., at North Staffordshire Technical College, Cauldon Place.

CHESTERFIELD at 7.15 p.m. "STRUCTURAL USES OF TIMBER," by W. A. Ireland of Timber Development Association. In the Lecture Hall, Central Library, Corporation Street.





INFORMATION AND REST ROOM

for Lever Brothers at Unilever House, S.E.1

Designer:

Charles Kenrick

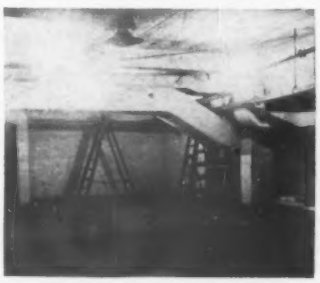
in co-operation with

Publicity Arts Ltd.

The problem was to form a comfortable, well-lit room in a sub-basement of Unilever House which had no natural light. The difficulties were increased by the existence of vent-trunks as shown in the small picture below.

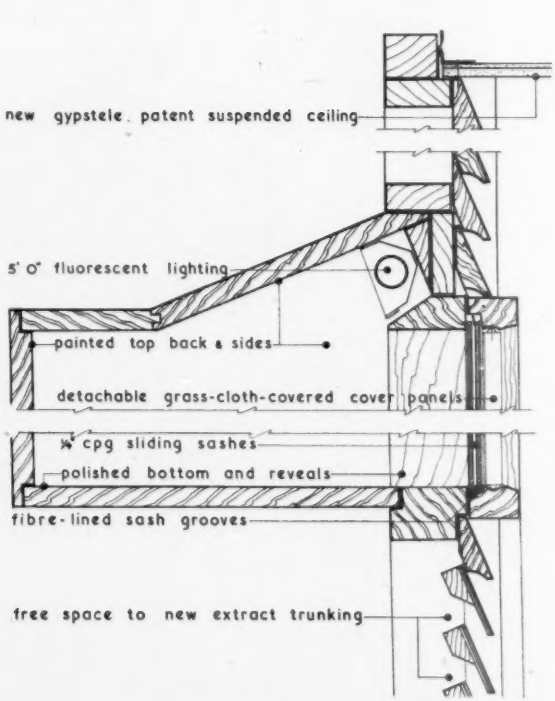
The casing of these trunks has been designed to form a feature at one end of the room. The absence of natural light has been counteracted by installing "windows" backed by a mural of a London scene.

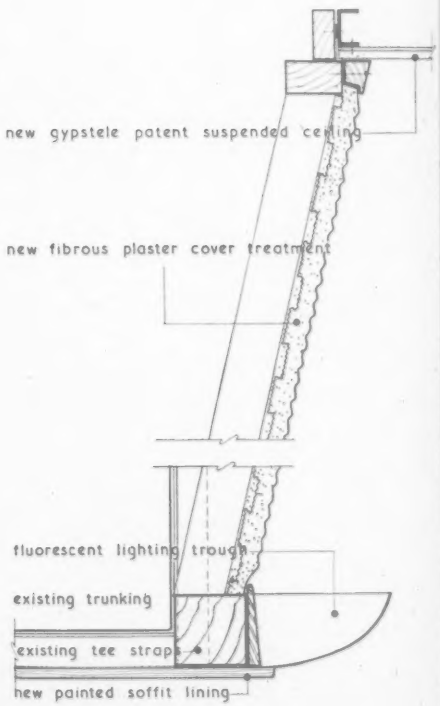
Ceiling lighting is a mixture of tungsten and fluorescent recessed behind egg-crate panels. The drawings, left, show the treatment around the existing vent ducts. Details of the construction of the louvred wall facing and display cases at "A" and of the fibrous plaster duct casing treatment at "B" are on the next page.



Right: a general view of the room showing the artificial window. This illustration gives a clear impression of the lighting obtained by the placing and mixing of the fluorescent and tungsten sources. The mural behind the window is by Clifford Rowe.

Above: a view showing the casing of the ducting and the recessed display panels in the louvred wall cladding. Details of the construction are below.


new gypstele patent suspended ceiling
5' 0" fluorescent lighting
painted top back & sides
detachable grass-cloth-covered cover panels
¾" cpg sliding sashes
polished bottom and reveals
fibre-lined sash grooves
free space to new extract trunking



CONTRACT • NEWS •

Notes below give basic data of contracts open under locality and authority which are in bold type. References indicate : (a) type of work, (b) address for application. Where no town is stated in the address it is the same as the locality given in the heading, (c) deposit, (d) last date for application, (e) last date and time for submission of tenders. Full details of contracts marked ★ are given in the advertisement section.

OPEN

BUILDING

ABINGDON R.C. (a) 18 bungalows, 14 houses, 24 houses Lamborough Hill Estate. (Separate contracts.) (b) The Architect, 60, Bath Street. (c) 3gns each contract. (e) Oct. 13.

* * *

ALTON R.C. (a) 4 aged persons' bungalows, 8 houses, Type E/1950N, and 8 houses, Type A/1951S, at Farringdon. (b) Engineer's Department, Council Offices, Barton End. (c) 3gns. (e) Oct. 31.

* * *

BEDFORDSHIRE C.C. (a) 1 cottage at Barton Manor Farm and 1 pair of cottages at College Farm, Roxton. (b) County Architect, Shire Hall, Bedford. (d) Oct. 6, stating for which they wish to tender.

* * *

BENFLEET U.C. (a) Public conveniences in School Lane, South Benfleet. (b) Council's Engineer, Council Offices, Thundersley. (c) £1. (e) Oct. 18.

* * *

BRIDLINGTON B.C. (a) 12 flats in Elma Avenue. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 5gns. (e) Oct. 12.

* * *

BROMLEY B.C. (a) 2 temporary classrooms at Nightingale Lane Girls' Grammar School. (b) Borough Engineer's Office, Municipal Offices. (c) 2gns. (e) Oct. 10.

* * *

BURY ST. EDMUNDS B.C. (a) 40 houses, 16 flats, Mildenhall Road Estate. (b) Borough Engineer, Borough Offices. (c) 2gns. (e) Oct. 16.

* * *

CANTERBURY C.C. (a) 22 houses, London Road. (b) City Architect, Municipal Buildings. (c) 2gns. (e) Oct. 15.

* * *

CHAILEY R.C. (a) 16 dwellings and ancillary site works at Cricket Field, Newick. (b) Council's Architect, Council Offices, Lewes House, Lewes. (c) 3gns. (e) Oct. 19.

* * *

CORNWALL C.C. (a) Secondary school at Newquay. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Truro. (c) 10gns. (d) Oct. 1. (e) Nov. 10.

* * *

CORBY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION. (a) Erection of licensed premises at Studfall Avenue, Corby. (b) General Manager, Corby Development Corporation, The Stone House. (c) 2gns. (d) Oct. 12.

* * *

DURHAM C.C. (a) 20 houses, Framwellgate Moor. (b) City Engineer's Office, Town Hall. (c) 1gns. (e) Oct. 26.

* * *

DURHAM COUNTY POLICE AUTHORITY. (a) 2 pairs of police houses in Carville Terrace, Willington. (b) Office of the Police Authority Architect, Court Lane. (e) Oct. 12.

* * *

DURHAM COUNTY POLICE AUTHORITY. (a) 1 pair of police houses at Mickle Hill, Blackhall Rocks. (b) Office of the Police Authority Architect, Court Lane. (e) Oct. 18.

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DURHAM COUNTY POLICE AUTHORITY. (a) 1 pair of police houses at Roseberry Road, Billingham. (b) Office of the Police Authority Architect, Court Lane. (e) Oct. 18.

* * *

EAST ASHFORD R.C. (a) 8 houses and 2 bungalows at Boughton Aluph and 2 bungalows at Chilham Lees, together with drainage, paths and fences. (b) Surveyor's Office, Council Offices, 8, Elwick Road, Ashford Kent. (c) 2gns.

* * *

ESSEX C.C. (a) Day nursery at Diban Avenue, Elm Park, Hornchurch. (Approx. value of contract £13,000.) (b) County Architect, County Hall, Chelmsford. (d) Oct. 6, with full details.

* * *

GOOLE R.C. (a) 8 houses, East Cowick. (b) J. F. Chambers, National Provincial Bank Chambers, Boothferry Road. (c) 2gns. (e) Oct. 16.

* * *

HAMBLEDON R.C. (a) (1) 18 houses at Binham's Meadow, Dunsfold, and (2) 18 houses and 4 bungalows at the Cranleigh Village Estate. (b) Engineer and Surveyor's Office, Council Offices, Bury Fields, Guildford. (c) 3gns. (e) Oct. 23.

* * *

HAMPSHIRE C.C. (a) Fire station and station officer's house at Privett Road, Gosport. (b) Borough Engineer, Gosport. (c) 1gn each tender, by cheque, payable to Gosport Borough Treasurer. (e) Nov. 6.

* * *

HECKMONDWIKE U.C. (a) 8 houses, Dale Lane Estate. (Separate trades, except Roofer.) (b) Council's Surveyor, 6, Church Street. (c) 2gns. (e) Oct. 22.

* * *

HUDDERSFIELD B.C. (a) Kitchen, dining-room, and block of 4 classrooms at Greenhead High School. (Separate trades.) (b) Education Architect's Offices, Ramsden Street. (e) Oct. 16.

* * *

ILFORD AND BARKING JOINT SEWERAGE COMMITTEE. (a) 2 staff cottages at the Joint Pumping Station, Alfred's Way, Barking. (b) Joint Engineer, Town Hall, Barking. (c) 2gns. (e) Oct. 15.

* * *

KENDAL B.C. (a) 34 dwellings, Hall Garth Estate. (b) Borough Engineer, Municipal Offices, Lowther Street. (c) 2gns. (e) Oct. 18.

* * *

LEEDS C.C. (a) Aged persons' hostel, Moorfield House Estate, Scott Hall Road. (b) City Architect, Priestley House, Quarry Hill. (c) 2gns. (e) Oct. 16.

* * *

LINCOLN C.C. (a) 1 pair of police houses, Harlaxton Road, Grantham. (b) County Architect, County Offices, Sleaford. (e) Oct. 13.

* * *

LONDON — BRENTFORD AND CHISWICK B.C. (a) 55 dwellings in 2 blocks at St. Thomas's, Chiswick. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall, W.4. (c) 5gns. (e) Oct. 29.

* * *

LONDON—CHINGFORD B.C. (a) 11 old people's dwellings and 1 communal building in Yardley Lane, Chingford. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall, The Ridgeway, E.4. (c) 2gns. (e) Oct. 29.

* * *

LONDON — CHINGFORD B.C. (a) Public conveniences in Mansfield Park, Chingford, E.4. (b) Borough Engineer, "Holmleigh," Ridgeway Road, E.4. (c) 1gn. (e) Oct. 15.

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LONDON—MERTON AND MORDEN U.C. (a) 3 blocks of 12 flats and 1 block of 18 flats in Grand Drive, S.W.20. (b) Council's Clerk, Morden Hall, S.W.19. (c) 3gns. (d) Oct. 15. (e) Nov. 12.

* * *

LUTON B.C. (a) 6 blocks of 12 flats, Farley Hill Estate. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) Nov. 2.

* * *

MAIDENHEAD B.C. (a) Public conveniences at Braywick Road Cemetery. (b) Borough Engineer's Office, 14, Craufurd Rise. (c) £2. (e) Oct. 12.

* * *

MIDDLESEX C.C. (a) Erection of secondary schools at (1) Beechwood Avenue, Sunbury-on-Thames, (2) Walford, Ealing, (3) Claremont Road, Hendon, and primary schools at (4) Chade Bridge, Twickenham, (5) Southgate Green, (6) Pinkham Way, Friern Barnet, (7) at former Chartered Bank of India Sports Ground, West Ealing, and (8) Goat Lane, Enfield. (b) Chief Education Officer, 10, Great George Street, London, S.W.1, stating contract desired. (c) 2gns. each contract. (d) Oct. 1.

* * *

MIDDLESEX C.C. (a) Erection of primary schools at follows, (1) Dormers Wells, Dormers Wells Lane, Southall, (2) Norwood Green, Thorncliffe Road, Southall, (3) Spring Grove, Clifton Road, Isleworth, (4) Raynton Drive, Hayes, (5) Glenwood Avenue, Wembley, (6) Sudbury, Watford Road, Wembley, (7) Cromwell Road, Teddington, Twickenham. (b) Chief Education Officer, 10, Great George Street, London, S.W.1, stating contract desired. (c) 2gns each contract. (d) Oct. 8.

* * *

NESTON U.C. (a) 8 houses with external site services for first phase of Liverpool/Raby Road Housing Scheme. (b) Messrs. G. D. Walford and Partners, 20, Castle Street, Liverpool 2. (c) 2gns. (e) Oct. 20.

* * *

NEWCASTLE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD. (a) Single-storey admission hospital and out-patient clinic at St. Luke's Hospital, Middlesbrough. (b) Secretary, "Dunira," Osborne Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 2. (d) Oct. 18.

* * *

NORFOLK E.C. (a) 2 additional classrooms at Stalham Secondary School. (b) Chief Education Officer, County Education Offices, Stracey Road, Norwich. (d) Oct. 10.

* * *

NORTH RIDING E.C. (a) County primary school at Loftus. (b) Secretary For Education, Education Offices, County Hall, Northallerton. (e) Nov. 1.

* * *

OXFORDSHIRE C.C. (a) Conversion of Messrs. F. Cooper's old premises in Park End Street into Council Offices. (b) G. R. Hutton, 3, Becket Street, Oxford. (d) Oct. 8.

* * *

PETERBOROUGH C.C. (a) 50 houses, Mountsteven Avenue Estate. (b) City Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (d) Oct. 5. (e) Oct. 26. (Documents should be inspected before application.)

* * *

PETERLEE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION. (a) Public house at Eden Hill Estate, near Horden. (b) Chief Architect, Shotton Hall, Castle Eden, Co. Durham. (c) 2gns. (e) Oct. 29.

* * *

PORTSMOUTH C.C. (a) Block of 54 flats (steel framed construction) at Grosvenor Street. (b) City Architect, Municipal Offices, 1, Western Parade. (e) 3gns. (d) Oct. 10.

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PRESTON B.C. (a) Conversion into 3 police flats of former St. Mark's Vicarage, Wellington Street. (b) Borough Engineer, Municipal Building. (c) 2gns. (e) Oct. 15.

* * *

RINGWOOD and FORDINGBRIDGE R.C. (a) Block of 12 Garages with stores at the Wessex Estate, Ringwood. (b) Frank Andrews, 45, High Street, Ringwood. (c) 2gns. (e) Nov. 5.

* * *

SCOTLAND — AUCHTERMUCHTY T.C. (a) 20 houses (all trades including site preparation). (b) L. A. Rolland, Albion House, Shorehead, Leven, Fife.

* * *

SCOTLAND—EAST LOTHIAN HOSPITALS GROUP BOARD OF MANAGEMENT. (a) Second extension at Vert Memorial Hospital, Haddington. (Separate trades). (b) Messrs. Miller and Tulloch, 20, Alva Street, Edinburgh, 2. (e) Oct. 16.

* * *

SCOTLAND — SUTHERLAND C.C. (a) 3 classrooms, boiler house, lavatories, etc., at Dornoch Academy (separate trades). (b) County Architect, Carnegie Buildings, Dornoch. (e) Oct. 20.

* * *

SOUTHPORT B.C. (a) 50 houses, Heathfield Road Estate. (b) Borough Architect's Office, Pavilion Buildings, Lord Street. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Oct. 22.

* * *

STAFFORD R.C. (a) (1) 5 pairs of houses and (2) construction of site services, including pumping station and sewage disposal works at Fradswell. (b) Council's Clerk, Council Offices, 7, St. Mary's Grove. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Oct. 19.

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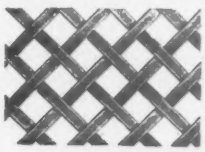

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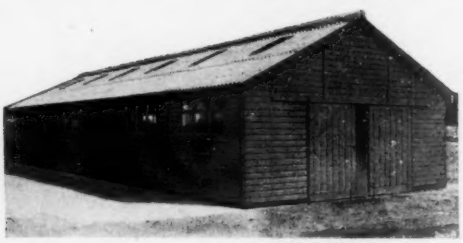

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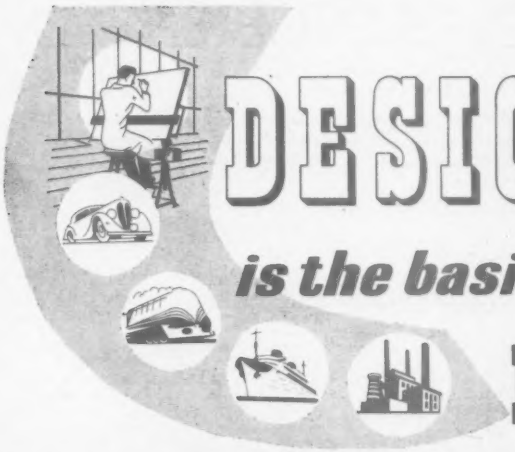

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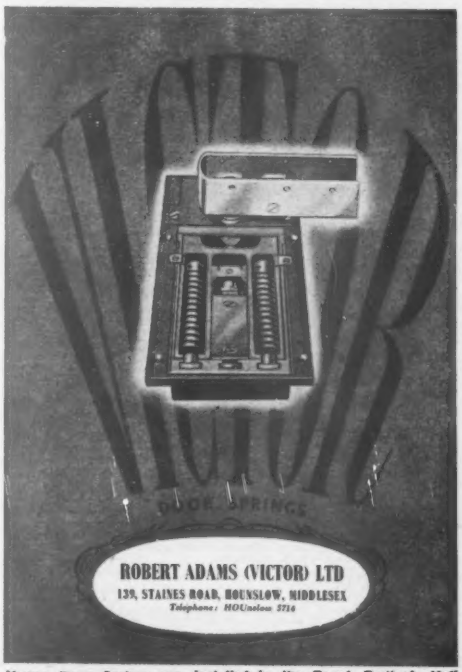

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OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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APPOINTMENTS

CITY OF LIVERPOOL—EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

COLLEGE OF BUILDING.

Clarence Street, Liverpool, 3.

Principal: T. E. Hall, Dip.Arch., A.R.I.B.A.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of ASSISTANT (full time), GRADE B, to teach Architecture in the Department of Building and Professional Studies to the standard of the Final Examination of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Duties to commence as soon as possible.

Salary: £450 × £25 to £725 (men); £405 × £20 to £580 (women).

Candidates must possess the appropriate professional qualification and professional or industrial experience. Teaching experience is desirable but not essential.

The correct position at entry will be determined by the length of industrial, teaching and war service of the candidates and additions to the scale for training and graduate qualifications are payable up to a maximum of £114 per annum (men); £93 per annum (women).

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from H. S. Magnay, Director of Education, 14, Sir Thomas St., Liverpool, 1, to whom completed applications should be returned within two weeks of the appearance of this advertisement.

THOMAS ALKER,
Town Clerk and Clerk to the Local Education Authority. (JA.2721). [5821

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

HAMMERSMITH SCHOOL OF BUILDING & ARTS & CRAFTS. Applications are invited for the following appointments.

(1) SENIOR LECTURER IN ARCHITECTURE. Applicants should be Fellows or Associates of the R.I.B.A. and preferably hold a degree or diploma of a recognized school of architecture.

They should have some teaching experience and also practical experience in design and construction.

(2) SENIOR LECTURER IN BUILDING. Applicants should be suitably qualified to control and teach in ordinary and higher national diploma and certificate courses and should preferably have some teaching experience as well as industrial experience.

(3) LECTURER IN QUANTITY SURVEYING. Applicants who will be required to supervise and teach in surveying course should be Associates of the R.I.C.S. and preferably have some teaching experience.

(4) STUDIO MASTER IN ARCHITECTURE. Applicants who will be required to give instruction in design and construction should be Associates of the R.I.B.A. and preferably hold the degree or diploma of a recognized school.

(5) ASSISTANT TEACHER OF BUILDING SCIENCE and MATHEMATICS. Applicants should be well qualified to teach these subjects in diploma and certificate courses.

Salaries for these posts will be in accordance with the Burnham Technical Report, 1951, and are as follows:—

Posts (1) and (2) £1,000—£25—£1,150.

Post (3) £900—£25—£1,000.

Posts (4) and (5) Assistants, Grade B, £450—£25—£725 plus graduate allowance £60 and training allowance where applicable.

For posts (4) and (5) the commencing point on the scale will be appropriate to previous teaching and/or industrial experience. All posts will carry a London allowance of £36 or £48 according to age.

Further particulars and application forms can be obtained on application to the Secretary at the School (S.A.E.) to whom completed applications should be returned on or before October 31st, 1951. (1181.) [5825

APPOINTMENTS—contd.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM.

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment in the Borough Architect's Department of (a) a SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, salary scale A.P.T. Division Grade VIII (£735 × £25—£810 per annum), and (b) an ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, salary scale A.P.T. Division Grade IV-VI (£530 rising to £710 per annum). London "Weighting" varying between £10 and £30 per annum according to age is applicable to each salary.

Applicants for both appointments must be suitably qualified and in the case of (a) should be Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

The appointments will be subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Council from time to time in force relating to Officers; to the National Scheme of Conditions of Service; to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937; to termination by one month's notice on either side and to the successful candidates passing satisfactorily a medical examination by the Council's Medical Officer of Health.

Forms of application may be obtained from the undersigned to whom they should be returned accompanied by copies of not more than three recent testimonials, in an envelope endorsed with the name of the post applied for so as to be received not later than Saturday, the 20th October, 1951.

Canvassing either directly or indirectly will be a disqualification.

ALAN MILNER SMITH,
Town Clerk.

Lewisham Town Hall,
Catford, S.E.6.
26th September, 1951. [5824

SINGAPORE IMPROVEMENT TRUST.

PLANNING OFFICERS.

TWO PLANNING OFFICERS (A & B) are required by the Singapore Improvement Trust, the appointments in the first instance being on a three year agreement. Age preferably under 30 years.

(2) Applicants for both posts must be qualified as A.M.T.P.I. Additional requirements are as follows: Post A. Experience as a statutory planning officer with a Local Planning Authority. Post B. Architectural training and should preferably be an A.R.I.B.A.

(3) Salary Scale $500-$1,000 per month the point of entry, depending on the age, qualifications and experience of the appointee. Expatriation allowance $110-$190 per month according to basic salary. Cost of Living Allowance 95% of the first $200 p.m. of basic salary, plus (i) Single Officers 40% of next $100 and 25% of next $400 of basic salary (max. allce., $330 p.m.) (ii) Married Officers (no children) 55% of next $200 and 45% of next $300 of basic salary (max. allce. $435 p.m.) (iii) Married Officers (with children) 75% of next $400 and 65% of next $100 of basic salary (max. allce. $555 p.m.). An allowance will be paid to cover cost of duty transport. All allowances are subject to revision. $1 (Malayan) equals 2s 4d. For example a married officer (with children) on a basis salary of $590 p.m. would draw equivalent of £1,655 10s 0d per annum including present allowances.

(4) Strict medical examination.

(5) Provident Fund to which the appointee must contribute 7½% of basic salary; the Trust contributes a minimum of 7½% rising by stages to 20% after 20 years service.

(6) Leave and passages in accordance with Regulations.

(7) Quarters (with heavy furniture) are provided at a rental of 8% of salary, or a housing allowance (12½% of salary) paid in lieu.

(8) Applications in duplicate with full personal and technical information and copies of three recent testimonials (also in duplicate) to Messrs. Peirce & Williams (Agents to the Trust) 1, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, before Tuesday the 30th October, 1951. [5816

APPOINTMENTS—contd.

BOROUGH OF ERITH.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the above appointment at a salary in accordance with the National Scale APT.II, commencing at £470 and rising by annual increments of £15 to a maximum of £515 per annum, plus London Area Weighting.

Applicants, who should be capable of preparing plans, specifications, estimates and Bills of Quantities for building works, should have had a good architectural training and be neat draughtsmen.

The appointment will be subject to the National Conditions of Service, to the Council's Regulations governing staff, to one month's notice in writing and to the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937. The successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applications must be on the form to be obtained, together with a list of duties, from the Borough Engineer & Surveyor, Town Hall, Erith, Kent, and be deliverd to him not later than 16th October, 1951.

Canvassing, either directly or indirectly, will disqualify.

J. A. CROMPTON,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Erith, Kent. [5818

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM.

APPOINTMENT OF CITY ARCHITECT.

THE Council of the City of Birmingham desire to appoint a CITY ARCHITECT to be responsible for the architectural work of the Corporation and are prepared to consider applications for the position from gentlemen who by membership of the Royal Institute of British Architects and otherwise are suitably qualified.

The initial salary for the post will be £3,000 per annum.

A memorandum giving details about the scope of the appointment, and about salary increments and other conditions, may be obtained by application to me at the Council House, Birmingham, 1.

Applications for the post must be received by me not later than the 17th November, 1951.

J. F. GREGG,
Town Clerk.

The Council House,
Birmingham, 1.
September, 1951. [5823

THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of an ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT on the permanent establishment of the Borough Engineer's Department at a salary in accordance with A.P.T. Grade II, viz. £470-£515 per annum plus London Weighting of £20 or £30 according to age.

The appointment is subject to the provisions of the Kensington Borough Council Superannuation Acts, 1907 to 1951, and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applications should give details of age, qualifications, present and previous appointments, experience, and all other essential information. The names and addresses of two persons to whom reference can be made, if the candidate is selected for interview, should be included in the application, which must reach the undersigned within ten days from the publication of this advertisement.

The Council are not in a position to provide the successful candidate with housing accommodation.

Canvassing directly or indirectly will disqualify.

J. WARING SAINSBURY,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall,
Kensington, W.8. [5827

APPOINTMENTS—contd.

DRAUGHTSMEN, ARCHITECTURAL AND CIVIL ENGINEERING AND MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING.

THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONERS invite applications for permanent appointments to the basic grade. Posts are in various Government Departments and cover a wide variety of subjects, and specialists in many different fields of work are required.

Applications will be accepted at any time up to and including 31st December, 1951. Selected candidates will be interviewed as soon as possible after the receipt of their application forms. Successful candidates may expect early appointments. Candidates are advised to apply as early as possible.

Candidates must be at least 20 and under 60 years of age on 1st January, 1951.

Candidates must have obtained an Ordinary National Certificate or an equivent or higher qualification except that, for the posts of Architectural and Civil Engineering Draughtsmen, candidates will be admitted who, in place of this qualification, can produce evidence of such professional training and experience as fits them for consideration.

Salary on entry (in London) ranging from £320 at age 20 to £480 (men) and £470 (women) at age 28 or over, rising to £575 (men) or £500 (women). Scale elsewhere from £10 to £30 less according to salary and town. Prospects of promotion.

Further particulars and application forms from Civil Service Commission, Scientific Branch, Trinidad House, Old Burlington St., London, W.1, quoting No. S68-69/51. Completed application forms should be returned as soon as possible. [5820

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of SENIOR PLANNING ASSISTANT—Salary in the scale £610 × 30 to £810.

Applicants should hold a Town Planning Qualification. The applicant appointed will be engaged on the design of residential areas, being chiefly concerned with the preparation of housing layouts, and should be a qualified Architect or have a sound Architectural background.

The appointment will be subject to the Development Corporation's staff rules and conditions of service (which are broadly similar to the Local Government Officers' "Charter").

Contributory superannuation with an opportunity of entering or continuing in Local Government Superannuation Fund will be provided.

Housing accommodation may be provided if necessary.

Applications, giving particulars of age, qualifications and experience, the names of two persons to whom reference may be made, and endorsed "Planning" should be addressed to the undersigned to reach him by 15th October, 1951.

W. O. HART,
General Manager.

Westbrook Hay,
Hemel Hempstead,
Herts. [5828

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

APPLICATIONS are invited for a post of ARCHITECT (Grade II, £700 to £840 basic) in Historic Records Section of Architect's Department. Position requires special knowledge of period architecture and decorative styles; experience in maintenance and preservation of ancient buildings and objects; preparation of material for records and publication; technical advice on corporate property. Superannuable. Salary subject to addition of 10 per cent on first £600 and 7½ per cent on remainder.

Application forms, to be returned by 31st October, 1951, obtainable from Architect, The County Hall, S.E.1, enclosing stamped addressed foolscap envelope and quoting AR/EK/HR. (1186.) [5830

EDUCATIONAL

CITY OF LEICESTER EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

LEICESTER COLLEGE OF ART

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

Session 1951-1952.

FULL time day course of three years duration have been arranged in Building and Quantity Surveying for students preparing for examinations of the Professional Institutions.

The College is recognised by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors as an approved place of instruction for the First and Intermediate Examinations in the Building and Quantity Surveying Sub-Divisions.

Applicants must hold a satisfactory General Certificate of Education at ordinary or advanced levels, or have passed the School Certificate Examination with 4 credits including Mathematics and English Language.

ELFED THOMAS,
Director of Education.

Newarke Street,
Leicester. [5817

CONTRACTS

BOROUGH OF BEDDINGTON & WALLINGTON.

ERECTION OF THREE BLOCKS OF TWO-STOREY DWELLINGS AT YORK STREET AND PERCY ROAD, BEDDINGTON CORNER.

THE Corporation will shortly be inviting tenders for the above work, which will be carried out under the supervision of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor.

The Corporation propose to obtain tenders by sending Bills of Quantities to a limited number of Contractors, and those wishing to be considered are invited to apply not later than noon on Friday, 12th October, 1951.

A. B. BATEMAN,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall,
Wallington, Surrey.
4th October, 1951. [5829

MISCELLANEOUS SECTION

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PROFESSIONAL Artist prepares coloured perspectives, interiors and sketch plans. Quotations by return.—Turner, 3, George St., Croydon, 2930. [5803

SITUATIONS VACANT

STRUCTURAL Designer/Draughtsman required for the design and supervision of factory extensions. Tring/Aylesbury district. Salary £750 p.a.—Box 4281. [5819

STRUCTURAL draughtsman required for Leamington Spa area, experience in design of industrial buildings and alterations necessary, knowledge of building work would be an advantage.—Copies of testimonials and salary required to Box 3013. [0111

MISCELLANEOUS

FREE ESTIMATES for complete SUPPLY and PLANTING of HEDGING, Avenues, Ornamental Lay-out on Housing Sites, etc. Screening Works, Quarries, Sandpits, etc.—FOREST NURSERIES (DARLEY DALE), Ltd., Derbyshire. [5826

USE "Watertight" products for Concrete results when concreting. "Liscal," "Quickset," "Surface Dressing." Stocked at most builders' merchants. For particulars apply.—Watertight Cement Co., Ltd., Highfurlong, Blackpool. Tel. Poulton-le-Fylde 315. [0078

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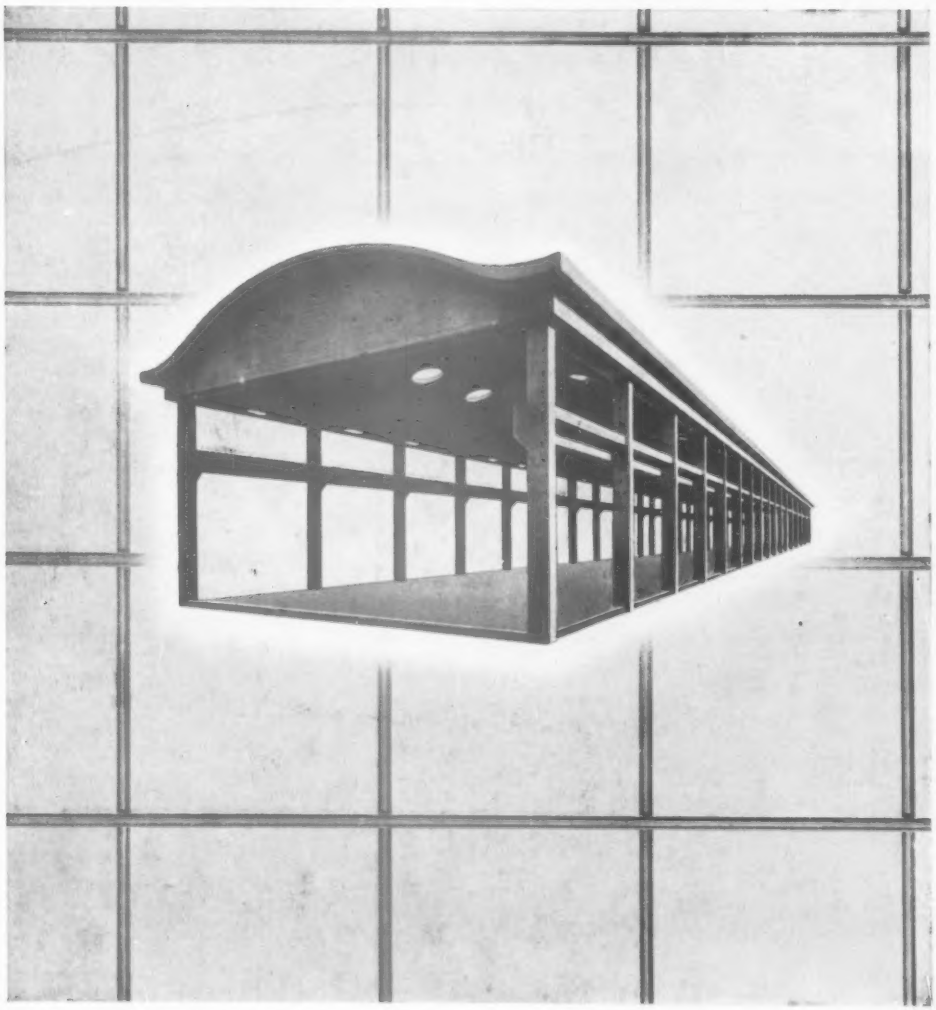

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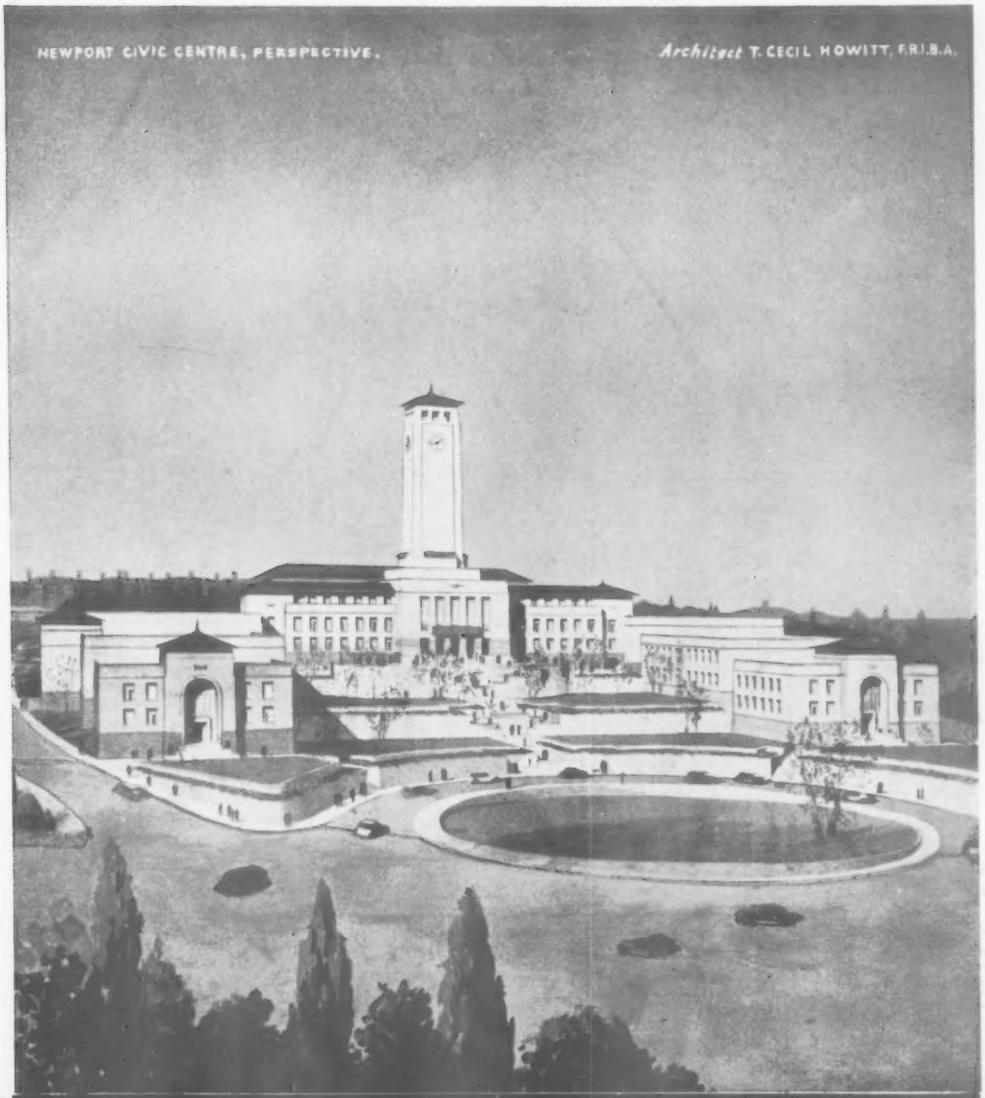

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